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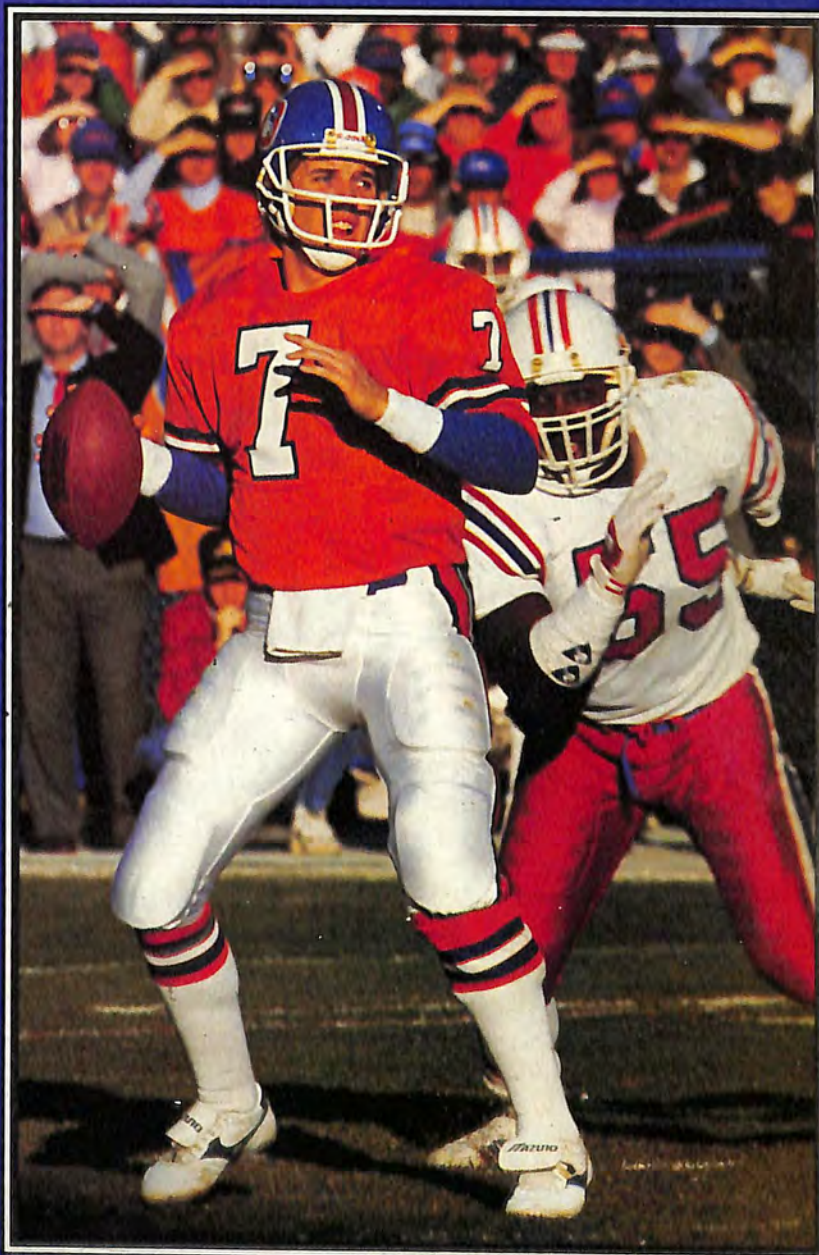
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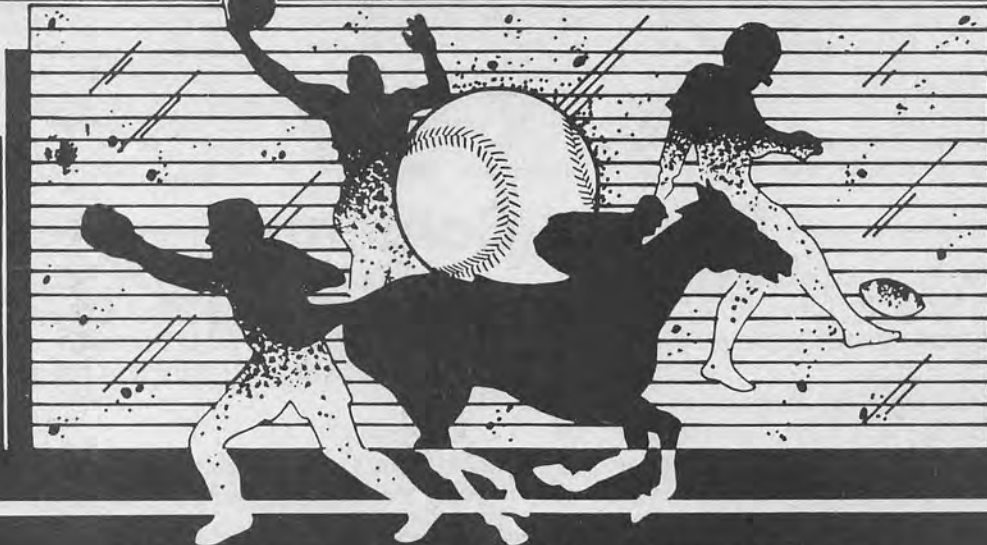
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Jim won the *Inquirer's* National Sports Handicapping Contest twice and was runner-up in the Castaway's Hotel 1985 Ultimate Challenge Football Handicapping Contest.

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To Beat the Book, First Learn His Edge

By JACK RUBIN

In Las Vegas, lines are posted in hopes of coming as close as possible to equally dividing the public's money. Ideally, this is supposed to mean that, no matter which side won, the sportsbook would make the vigorish. (Everybody puts up \$11 for every \$10 he wants to win. Winners make a \$10 profit, while losers pay \$11.) In theory, if \$1 million were bet on each side in a game, the bookmaker would collect \$100,000 regardless which side proved victorious.

Naturally, it is rare that any event even approaches this goal. So what, then, is the realistic picture of legalized football wagering in Nevada?

Sonny Reizner, sportsbook director of the Castaways, is regarded by many as "The Man" when it comes to the sports-betting industry.

"There is no such thing as balancing the line," states Reizner. "I am often asked what moves a line. The first answer is money. Money moves a line, but not before you know who is betting and why. Some drunk might not move the line with a \$5,000 bet, while someone I greatly respect might

make a dent with a much smaller play. Bookies must know how to handicap faces.

"The weather moves lines, and so do injuries.

"Now, let's take an example to illustrate what the book's position might be on a game. Let's say that \$30,000 was bet on team A, and \$20,000 was put on team B. What are the possibilities?

"If team A wins, the book pays out \$30,000 and collects \$22,000 for a loss of \$8,000.

"If team B wins, the book pays out \$20,000 and collects \$33,000 for a profit of \$13,000.

"What it comes down to, in this example, is betting \$8,000 to win \$13,000. The bettor would have to lay \$14,300 to win \$13,000. There is no balance, but we certainly have a great percentage because, as a player, I know how that juice could eat you up."

What are the actual odds against winning?

"The bettor," Reizner continues, "is minus approximately 4.5 percent when laying 11-10 in football and basket-

ball. Many gamblers are under the mistaken impression that it's ten percent. When laying 11-10, the percentage of winners needed to break even is 52.38. The immediate goal of a player should be to get above this break-even point. A realistic figure might be between 55 and 60 percent winners. This figure is not easy, but, with the proper effort and study, it is attainable.

"A two-team parlay is computed at the rate of 11-10 and is a fair gamble. A three-team parlay is computed the same way but the figure is rounded off slightly in favor of the player, making it ever-so-slightly better. The four-teamer is a very bad betting proposition. Winning all four games to complete it successfully is quite difficult, obviously, but the four-team parlay is computed, progressively, against the better.

"Totals (overs and unders) are not a bad betting proposition. Once again, the 11-10 minus expectation is 4.5 percent. An astute follower of the game can acquire an opinion as good as the linemaker." □

Beat the Numbers and You Beat the Game

How the Experts Make the Lines

By JACK RUBIN

In this town of Las Vegas, Michael "Roxy" Roxborough, president of Las Vegas Sports Consultants, is an oddsmaker extraordinaire. He makes the line for 22 sportsbooks in Nevada, the most prestigious of which are the Stardust, Caesars Palace and the Las Vegas Hilton.

In addition, Roxy teaches a race and sportsbook management class at Clark County Community College, in North Las Vegas, and at Old College in Reno. The course covers marketing, operating budgets and moving numbers, everything geared to learning about how to be a successful bookmaker.

So, with in-depth views from both sides of the counter, Roxy is in a perfect position to comment upon the trends, the angles and the edges.

To ask an obvious question, "What goes into the making of a line?"

"First," Roxy answers, "you must designate a power rating and adjust it each week. There are two parts to this. One is how a team performed and the other is the public's perception on one team or against another. That is reflected in how a line moves.

"The final score outweighs all other factors. The public bets more on the National Football League than on any other sport."

Doesn't the oddsmaker take all

kinds of trends into consideration? If something works, isn't the line adjusted accordingly?

"Absolutely. You will find that when a team is playing its third game in a row on the road, the money will show against them. If a team plays on Monday night on one coast and is on the road on the other coast the following week, well, that's another situation. You've got to have a feel for how players want to bet."

Since the line is based upon power ratings and is used as a guide for the sportsbooks, how would a player develop his own power ratings in a simple format?

"He might want to work with medians. During the first three games of the season he could use figures based upon last season and then, after the third week, he could start the new season. That doesn't give him much of a sampling but it will pick up as the season progresses.

"Working with medians, he could use points-for and points-against. For example, if a team has played seven games, scoring 10, 14, 16, 17, 21, 22 and 36, the center number is the median score. If you have an even number of scores and you have two numbers in the center, I would take the middle between the two and use that as the median.

"If the player has a decent knowledge of the game, he can set up his own ratings. For example, set up a hypothetical game, Detroit at Chicago. Think of a number where you wouldn't want to bet the favorite and you wouldn't want to bet the underdog. Let's say, in this situation, you decide upon 14. If you felt Chicago was the best, you would set its number at zero. Remember, the lower the rating, the stronger the team. Then you would be left with the 14. You would take away two points, because Chicago is at home, and give Detroit a rating of 12."

Are players so much smarter today when it comes to their knowledge on how the line is going to move?

"That's tough to say. There's a great example of how someone's thinking can be off. It happened some years ago in the game between Oklahoma and Miami of Florida. The line opened with Oklahoma favored by two. This guy liked Miami and he paid someone to stay in line for 48 hours to get the price. At that time you had to take a number and you couldn't leave the building. Anyway, the guy waited two days in line and bet Miami, plus the two points, for the limit. Then he bet Miami, plus a point and one-half, for

(Continued on Page 8)

Master Advises How Players Can Make Bookmaker's Line Work for Them

Bob Martin: Living Handicapping Legend

By JACK RUBIN

If a handicapper had to turn to one person, in search of an angle or trend that might aid in beating the pointspread, that man would be Bob Martin, considered a living legend in Las Vegas gambling circles.

"There is nobody who could give me prices that I would put up, as is," says one sportsbook director of a major Las Vegas casino. "However," he quickly adds, "Bob Martin's line, I would put up, cold, without blinking an eye."

At 68 during the last football season, Martin kids about being a member of the over-the-hill mob. He has been betting since he was 13, getting down \$5 baseball parlays in Brooklyn pool halls. His "feel" for making prices, however, did not develop until much later. It was after he came out of the Army and hung around Broadway in Manhattan, where he was tutored by the old pros.

"Bettors are smarter today than they were 30 years ago," Martin says. "But you need the experience."

"I'm still a player," he admits. "Mostly football. If I see a line and I disagree, I'll bet."

He is extremely selective and he makes a living at it. He will not make a bet simply because a game is on TV.

"But," he adds, "primarily, I'm a bookmaker."

As the most respected linemaker of all time, how does Bob Martin assess the wagering scene and the most successful winning approaches to sports betting? We are well aware that if you can beat the pointspread, you can beat the game. But, is that the only way?

"Price is not the only area in which a player can beat the game," comments Martin. "People bet for different reasons. One player might go a particular way because the computer spits out certain statistics. For me, it is a combination of factors."

"I place a great deal of emphasis in psychological factors. It must be an advantageous situation for me to play. For example, in college football, on any special weekend one team might beat a particular team they wouldn't be able to beat at any other time."

"Revenge is one factor, but there is more involved besides just the anger to avenge a loss. The teams must be evenly matched with all other things being equal. A team must have the ability to pull off the upset, although, at times, the incentive can carry less-capable teams to a pointspread victory. And, as I said, it's not just the revenge factor, but the incidents involved surrounding it."

"As an example of the other things involved: Some years ago the Bears beat Detroit easily. That wasn't the whole thing. Chicago players were taunting the Lions on the sidelines, really rubbing their faces in the dirt. The next time the Lions were in Chicago, they manhandled the Bears."

"Another example took place some years back when the Dolphins beat the Baltimore Colts, something like 38-0 in Miami. A few weeks later, the Dolphins were in Baltimore. The next week, Miami was to face a top divisional rival. In this game with the Colts, the Dolphins figured to be favored by 14 or more."

"So I opened the game at 13, hoping to get favorite money. I knew the wise guys would be taking the dog at other places where they could get the highest line. As it turned out, Baltimore beat them even up or Miami won it with a late score. Either way, the Colts covered."

"In addition to revenge, there is the factor of a team looking ahead to a more important game. In the Miami-Baltimore game I just mentioned, you had both of those factors involved (the Colts looking for revenge and the Dolphins looking ahead to a key divisional confrontation). There are numerous variables and you've got to have a feel for the game. The price is one big thing but certainly not the only consideration."

"To keep up, I might watch about ten college games on a Saturday. I would get a feel for the ability of the quarterback as well as the team in general."

What about injuries?

"I tend to discount injuries except for key players where there is no adequate backup. I have to evaluate the replacement. If a quarterback is out and the other guy is pretty good, then it doesn't mean so much to me. Mostly, I overlook injuries."

"One thing I notice, though. A quarterback may be hurt in a game and his team feels it was a cheap shot. When the defense comes out on the field, it will be out to compensate for the injured quarterback. Most often, these players will overwhelm the opposing offense."

"When I see or read about these psychological factors in a game, I write them down and file them away. Later on that season, or even the following year, that information can make the difference. I have known situations in which one team runs up the score against another and the losing coach will vow not to forget it."

"In dealing with the NFL, the bookmaker's line is as close to perfect as you will find anywhere. It is very difficult to find situations in which the bettor can beat that line."

Is there any way in which the player can make the bookmaker's line work for him?

"The best way would be for the bettor to approach the line with great respect. Let's say the book opens a team at 6 points and it goes up to 8. The player would not be wrong in respecting the book's line. So, in this situation he would take the 8 points, unless, of course, there were other reasons for the movement. The best approach for the player would be to stay with the book's line."

What angles have held up the strongest over the years?

"The situation in which you have two closely matched teams playing for the second time during the regular season. It is extremely difficult to beat a team two times in one season. 'Must' games are also important. It truly means something when one side really needs the game."

What was the strangest bet you ever saw?

"When we were allowed to book different events some years ago," Martin says with a sparkle in his eyes, "we were the first to book the Academy Awards at the Union Plaza. In those days, we could book just about anything. Anyway, one day some guy came in with a cashier's check for \$5,000. He went to Johnny Quinn and said he wanted to bet there would be an earthquake in California. He was looking to get 100-1 for his five grand."

"I told him that was too high but we would give him 70-1. He had to tell exactly when it would happen and how strong it would be. This was all a matter of interpretation. How strong does it have to register to be considered an earthquake? How many casualties?

"Anyway, he said he wanted to make this bet because if he was right, he would be able to write a book and make a million dollars. We made the bet and I told him that on the day of his prediction, I'd be in L.A. with his money and he'd have to come and dig me up to get paid if he won."

"That bet was made in the late '70s and, thank God, he lost," Martin adds.

"Thank God for California," I repeated.

"What California?" asks Martin. "Thank God for us. Do you realize how much we would have lost at 70-1?"



Handicapper's Winning Key: Preparation

By JIM FEIST

The successful approach to uncovering the winning team in a football contest is locked up in serious study, but the key remains the biggest factor in analyzing games — preparation.

Preparation can be broken down into two areas: physical and emotional. When two teams match up physically, but one is not emotionally ready to play, the other team holds a tremendous edge.

A team might not be ready for any number of reasons. It might be drained from a previous effort, or looking ahead to its next confrontation. That's what makes a "sandwich" situation such an inviting play. This takes place when a team faces a weak rival sandwiched between two strong opponents. The tendency is for it to let down against the weaker foe between the highly significant contests.

However, bettors need not rely only on a paper matchup when concerned with prepared teams. The proof is in the playing — in the game and in the score. Handicappers who want to analyze how well a team prepares, physically and emotionally, for an important game, should look no further than the games themselves.

The questions that must be asked are: Which games mean the most to either or both teams, and how do these teams fare in these situations? Sometimes what holds true for one of the games in a season does not necessarily hold true for the second time both teams meet.

The Cincinnati-Cleveland matchups in 1986 are a good example. This is always a meaningful clash for both sides. The first time they played last year, the Browns were favored by five points. Since that game was played in Cleveland, before some 79,000 fans, the Browns should have needed no excuses. As a result of the Bengals' 30-13 thrashing, credit them with the ability to prepare, and mark the losing Browns down for not being ready to meet the challenge.

Let's put this to the test by examining how Cleveland fared in 1985 when it went up against the good teams. The first time the Browns went to Dallas, they were shut out entering the fourth quarter and lost 20-7. They had the visiting Raiders on the ropes but blew it when Todd Christensen caught an eight-yard touchdown pass with 29 seconds left.

They followed that with losses to Washington, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati. They did beat the Bengals two starts later and followed that with a 35-33 victory over the Giants when Eric Schubert missed a 34-yard field goal with four seconds left.

In those '85 playoffs, they led Miami 21-17 after three quarters but

were not good enough to prevent the Dolphins' winning touchdown with 1:57 remaining. The Bengals did show somewhat better readiness in '85 even though they didn't make the playoffs. They beat Pittsburgh 37-24 and 26-21. They upset the Giants 35-30 and did whip the Cowboys 50-24. Then they failed to tie the Redskins when Jim Breech's 51-yard field goal was short with seven seconds remaining. They closed that season with a 20-13 loss to the Patriots.

All in all, while the Bengals are not a particularly strong club, they did match up over the Browns in coming prepared to play. At least they did the first time they met in '86. However, after observing the second time around, you might have to give them the credit for being able to adjust enough to turn everything completely around. They learned well and were able to answer the call when they sniffed a chance for revenge.

The next time, the Browns were on the road with an opportunity to return the favor and embarrass the Bengals in front of Cincinnati's home crowd. It was a massacre in Cincinnati, with Webster Slaughter and Kevin Mack scoring two touchdowns each while Cleveland added insult to injury by clinching the division title.

That's just one example of numerous possibilities. The same can be done to any number of clubs which match up fairly close but can be pulled apart when it comes to real character.

While the Atlanta Falcons had jumped off to a running start last season, winning their first four games, including a victory over the Cowboys, the '85 history reveals a poor showing in preparing for the better teams. They were destroyed by all the top clubs, and also lost to a number of the just-fair teams. Their 2-12 record in '85 (6-10 vs. the spread) could reflect more on their overall weakness than on their ability to come ready to play. Last year, however, looked like a dramatic improvement despite not having made the playoffs.

The Bills can be regarded as one of the weaker teams. The Bears beat everybody they faced in '85 with the exception of the Dolphins. There was no question as to their superior ability but last year they struggled. They won all but two games, yet failed to cover ten times. And their impressive defensive record was aided greatly by the fact they encountered most of the weaker offenses throughout the season.

The Cowboys usually come to play and, when they are beaten, it can generally be credited to actual team weaknesses rather than preparation. The Broncos had an impressive campaign but their history of putting up a fight

and then blowing the big one certainly repeated itself.

The Lions were 9-6 vs. the points last year. They were 8-8 against the spread in '85 and did beat some of the tougher teams at home. In previous years they had trouble staying in the game on the road. Last year they had improved in that area. The Packers have shown little ability in getting ready for the tough ones. They have problems, at times, with some less-than-tough ones, proving they have trouble with preparations in general. The Oilers are erratic and still do not match up well against the better clubs.

The Colts, one of the league's weaker teams, finished the season on a positive note with three victories. The Chiefs show the ability to upset a good team every now and then in Kansas City and have drastically improved. The Raiders had a poor start, looked really good for a while, and then finished with a flop.

The Rams are tough and capable of playing and staying with anybody. The Giants, who used to be notorious for finding a way to lose the big ones, proved how solid they could be, but face opponents eager to prove great Super Bowl teams do not repeat.

The Jets usually come to play and can beat anyone on any given day. However, their weaknesses do show and they should be matched up along those lines rather than on intensity. Late last year, largely because of injuries, they had appeared really sad. The Eagles can win a big one but are much too erratic. They will have to show much more before being ranked as solid and in with the big boys. The Steelers have improved considerably but remain a questionable commodity.

The Cards beat somebody once in a while but that's the true extent of their readiness for major clubs. The Chargers can look really good or really bad against anyone, but it's tough to have to count on them under pressure. The 49ers are one of the classier teams. The Seahawks have improved a good deal and must be respected for being able to make their presence felt. The Bucs cannot be considered at all. The Redskins are a money club but also have their problems and must be rated on their individual strengths and weaknesses.

Look for the teams that have proven they come ready to play the big games against the top teams. This is extremely important when matching two teams of equal physical talent. You want a history of coming prepared to play.

And don't be fooled by some grand upset last week. It's history that repeats itself and not some overrated underdog.

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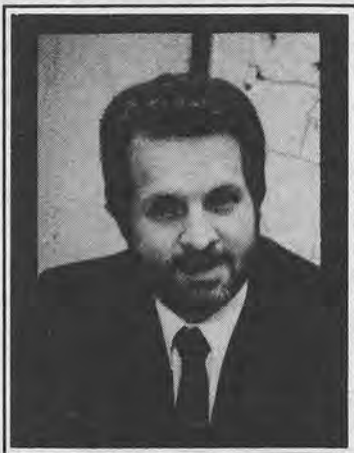
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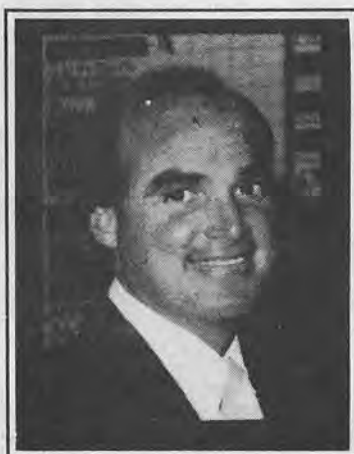
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Las Vegas Experts Reveal Keys to Winning

By JACK RUBIN

In my book, the combination of experience and success are enough to merit a label as "Las Vegas Expert." And these betting men are extremely wise to the ways of football handicapping and what it takes to win.

What then, do they advise the players?

Bob Martin, oddsmaker-handicapper extraordinaire, says, "For college football, to be successful you should zero in on the section you know best. Take one conference and concentrate on it until you've become an expert."

"For the NFL, you've got to gear your mind as to how teams will motivate themselves. If you can train your mind to think how they think, know who will be ready that day, who will be up for a game and who will be down, that's what gets the money."

"Motivation. Teams getting emotionally high for a game and teams letting down. Reverses, like when a team is embarrassed. A defensive team doesn't take well to humiliation. Bettors will often see quality talent upset by a highly motivated force."

Sonny Reizner, ageless master sportsbook director at the Castaways, says, "If you can spot a team that has momentum, it might carry you through till the end of the season. It should help to show a profit. As the season progresses, the handicapper will notice that the live teams and the dead ones become more obvious."

Jack Lysaght, race and sportsbook director at the Riviera, suggests, "Don't bet a team unless you think it will win the game outright. It's usually courting disaster to play a dog, knowing they will lose the game but thinking they can stay close enough to cover."

"Stay with the hot teams for the

season," says Rick Herron, race and sportsbook manager at the Sands. "Also stick with fewer best bets. Once you start reaching out for lots of games, you become more dependent on luck."

Lenny Del Genio, race and sportsbook director at the Frontier, says, "You need to be perceptive enough to bet a team when it is hot and know when to get off. There is so much information out there, you can hit 'overload' or 'burnout' too easily. Sometimes, you have to be able to avoid the mass information and make a bet strictly from gut instinct."

"As the season progresses," says Don Lanners, race and sportsbook director at Circus Circus, the lines catch up to the performances of the weaker teams. Once the lines have been adjusted to the poor performances, do not ignore them because the numbers are representative of their chances."

"You might even be getting an extra point or two because people are overplaying against them, just like the strongest teams have their lines overplayed. The general public makes a habit of going overboard on the strongest teams and ignoring, or going against, the weakest clubs. This is especially true with tourists. They play their favorites; they like to bet on winners and don't like to play losing teams. Locals tend to be much sharper players. So, by staying on top of the lines, you can get bonus points in these situations, especially if you bet in sportsbooks which deal mostly with the tourist trade."

"The NFL is one of the toughest games to beat," says Frank Weatherholt, race and sportsbook director of the Sahara. "You've got to be super

selective. Don't even attempt to bet every game. Pick your spots and then shop around for the best price. Very often, there is a difference in the line from place to place. It might be only half a point or as much as two points. And don't kid yourself that it doesn't mean anything. Think about how often the bet is lost for a point or two. Here at the Sahara, we're not afraid to move the lines, and players should check our numbers before betting since we just might have the best price on the side they're looking for."

Jimmy Vaccaro, race and sportsbook director at Bally's Grand in Las Vegas and one of the sharpest and nicest guys in town, sums it all up when it comes to solid advice.

"Bet more," says Jimmy.

"Once you've watched every team go around, you should have a definite opinion. If you love a game, bet out."

"I'm tired of hearing about percentages of the bankroll, like this is a two-percent play and this is a four-percent play. Guys like this do not scare me. What scares me is someone with nerves cold as steel, someone who has \$3,000 in his pocket and loves a game enough to bet the \$3,000 and then go borrow another \$1,000 to bet on it."

"The trouble with most players is they never win as much when they are going good as they lose when they are going bad. Like at the crap table. They win five in a row and walk away with \$100. They lose five in a row and they're stuck \$450."

"If I had \$5,000 in my pocket and I loved a team, I'd bet it all plus what I could get down by phone. Then I'd have until Tuesday to get the money to pay."



(Continued from Page 4)

the limit. All that trouble because he wanted to be sure he got that price. Well, he won his bet, but that wasn't the point. The line eventually went to six, and for all his carrying on he was taking four points the worst of it."

What should a player look for in trying to gain an edge?

"Sometimes you look for combinations which go together for parlays, like the game and the total. Like the dog and the under, the favorite and the over. Especially when double-digit favorites are involved. In situations with 14 points, or higher, in a parlay with the game and the total, there is a definite advantage in taking the dog and the under."

"Then there are players who will bet numbers. Their edge is in the numbers

and they are not concerned with the teams, only with the pointspreads and by how many points the final scores vary from the spread."

"They play the percentages. For example, take the four years from 1982 through 1985; more NFL games were decided by three points than any other number. That's 13.9 percent, to be exact. The second most popular number is seven at 6.3 percent of the time. Then comes ten points, at 6.1 percent, six points at 5.8 percent and four points at 5.1 percent."

"Now, let's say the line on a game was three points. A player would shop around, hoping to find two and one-half, perhaps two, on that same game. If he could, he would lay the points with the expectation that, should the most common figure come up at three,

he would win his bet."

"Likewise, if he shopped around and found the line at three and one-half, or even four, he would take the dog in hopes that, should the score land on three, he would emerge victorious."

How do the numbers figure with totals?

"With under and over betting, the percentages are much lower because there are more variables involved. The number 37 figures best at 5.1 percent, with 48 next at 4.0 percent; then there is a slight difference separating: 51, 3.8 percent; 41, 44, 45 and 38 at 3.6 percent. But, as I said, there are more factors involved in totals and the numbers are not so strong."

Michael "Roxy" Roxborough, he's got your number.



How to Win When Everybody Else Is Losing

By JACK RUBIN

A bit of the way into last season's football season, the bettors were getting killed. When I tried to find out why this was happening, I began and ended my search with Russ Culver, sports handicapper, linemaker and resident genius at Bally's Grand in Las Vegas.

"Not many systems are working and it has not been a good year for the players," Russ said, in an understatement early last November.

But why is this happening?

"Because nobody can beat the NFL," said Russ. "The lines have been too good and, if you can't beat the lines, you can't beat the game."

Were any angles working at all?

"Not a whole lot," Russ said, "because they are incorporated in the line. And with so many quarterbacks injured, it is most difficult to depend upon consistency."

With this in mind, I asked Russ what would be the best approach in search of a winning play while everyone else is losing.

"Bet against the public," Russ recommends. "Some pointsreads are wrong intentionally. The public can be expected to jump on teams idolized by the media."

"The World Series was a perfect example. The media had been advocating nothing but the Mets. Then, when the line came out, they said they

could not understand why the Mets were such big favorites. They were big favorites because, no matter what number was put up, the players still would have taken it.

"The linemaker knows the public's trends and there is a built-in prejudice toward certain teams. The public bets good teams; they love superstars. They fall for all the media hype. They go for the glamour ballplayers."

"If you recall, I told you last year that to win you had to go against the Super Bowl champs, at that time it was the Bears. These teams are in lots of TV games and the numbers are too inflated. In their first nine games last season, the Bears were 3-6 against the spread; they were 4-9 after 13 games, 6-10 on the season, 6-11 if you count the playoff game."

"The Monday night game is the number-one game influenced by the public. It receives the most TV coverage and hype. For example, a game I would have made eight, turned out to be ten because of the enthusiasm and public following. The Bears peaked two years ago but the pointsread on the public's darlings was still peaking a year later."

"A line can be inflated as much as two points. That may not matter in a game here and there, but in the long run you might find every close game going against you."

"However, while players betting

into the line were doing poorly last year, it seems the teasers had been extremely successful, and that's because the line had been so tough. Ten and 14-point teasers, where the player has to lay too much money, are not a good value. But, the six, 6 1/2, and seven-point teasers are an excellent vehicle for the smart bettor."

"It is usually a good idea to tease a 'low-total' game. You look at the numbers put up for 'totals' betting. The lower the total, the more the game figures to be close. Using games like this in a teaser usually provides good value since you are getting extra points in a game which should be fairly close."

"You want to know what is significant in picking winners. I believe a comparative analysis is important — how teams do against other teams. And it is important to remember that no team is as good as its last win or as poor as its last loss. A team's last game is overemphasized and this is a major cause of poor handicapping judgments. You must look at the overall picture of the team. I place more emphasis in coaching and the ability to be prepared for a game. I believe the good teams will prove themselves and the ability to overlook certain performances is essential for successful handicapping," Russ concludes.



Reporting from Las Vegas

The 'Serious' Part of the Betting Season

To be successful in football wagering you've got to study the trends during the most meaningful portion of the season. Understanding the end of the campaign teaches the player how to approach football overall and, especially, how to find the advantage over the bookmaker.

By JACK RUBIN

Handicappers are well aware of the idea that the most meaningful NFL contests attract the strongest action. The more important a game is, the more interest and "play" it generates.

Experienced football bettors realize the various dangers in handicapping from a point late in the season through the playoffs. Things become serious as the contenders are being separated from the pretenders. But what are the trends which emerge from year to year? How do they affect the games and the "totals"? What is, and what is not, included in the point-spread?

Keith Glantz, race and sportsbook director at the Palace Station, is a respected handicapper on both sides of the counter.

"In games between teams which 'must win' and teams which are, basically, out of all hopes of making the playoffs, the line already has been adjusted accordingly," says Keith. "It could be as much as two or three points more than if it were just a regular-season game."

"But, just because a team 'must win' doesn't mean it will win. The line is made higher because the public is going to bet in that direction anyway."

"When handicapping, up to the last week of the season, from the 12th to the 15th week, the top teams will always dominate and play their best. The middle-of-the-road teams vying for a playoff spot will choke under the pressure. They've never been there before and they don't know how to handle it. The teams that are out of it have nothing to lose and will be playing looser, trying more things."

"I'd rather be on the side of a looser team. They'll be out there playing to win while the borderline teams will be too concerned with trying not to lose. Late last season, Atlanta was such a borderline team. In their games the line might have been a point higher

and bettors should not have been afraid to go against them."

"Must-win situations are just not conclusive. We might open a team two or three points higher in the line and then they will be bet up even higher. Since they're going to bet them anyway, we may as well start them high. This is where the smart player can find his advantage."

"In the 16th week, only the teams which should be there will be there. When they have to win, they do. Even when their line is four or five points higher, they cover anyway."

"Many battles between must-win teams turn into big defensive confrontations and so the total may be down a little more than in the regular season. In the last week, as well as the playoffs, games are played tighter to the vest but you still cannot classify the situations. There still are blowouts. Top teams will play with their offense in high gear. They won't change their style for a big game. Any team which changes what got them there, well, they will lose."

"If you look back, you will notice

that all Super Bowl winners played as they played all year. The losers either changed their style or just shouldn't have been there at all. Hesitant teams will find that they won't score early and then will not be able to play catch-up.

"Generally speaking, the sharp handicapper takes advantage of such observations," concludes Keith.

Russ Culver, handicapper for the Bally's Grand in Las Vegas, is another gentleman with a highly regarded opinion.

"The must-win situation is a very overrated psychological factor," says Russ. "Bettors always overreact to the team needing the game. However, when both teams need the game, this is not much of a factor."

"When one team is in a must-win situation against a team that is out of it, there will be a public overlay on the first team. Teams which have to win often do win, but not necessarily by the spread. The pressure could force them into playing a conservative game. The lines on these teams usually start too high and then the public just bets them up even higher."

"Late in the year you might have a team, which was enjoying a good

year, versus a 'have-not.' The have-not would just love to kick somebody's behind. You will see more of the weaker teams doing well. For the weaker teams, that's their Super Bowl — to kick someone out of the playoffs."



George Allen

"Dogs play loose while pressure is on the contenders. That's when you see things like fake punts; they can afford to try anything. Must-win teams do not cover that often because you are laying a high price against a dangerous underdog."

"The need to win causes teams to play conservatively. They don't want to make the first mistake. It's the George Allen philosophy: Let other teams beat themselves. He took the Redskins to the Super Bowl that way."

"When observing totals, you've got to lean to the 'under' because there's also a good deal of bad weather that time of the year. Players do get the best of it with the 'unders.' Especially on a Monday night game when you will find the line one or two points higher than if that game was on a Sunday. The general public loves to root for teams to score and they dominate 'over' betting. Obviously, this gives an edge to those who go the other way," Russ concludes.

As a matter of fact, bucking the public is a huge part of the road to successful sports wagering.



How Football Bettors Buried the Bookmakers

Players won so much and so often, some books raised the odds while others dropped this form of wagering completely. Former 'sucker' play now becomes the wise bettor's tool.

By JACK RUBIN

Last season, in Las Vegas, football bettors finally found one area in which they could bet with both hands and carry the winnings away in sacks.

It's all been happening with wagering on teasers.

The players had been winning so much money, with such consistency, that some sportsbooks had raised the odds to change the payoffs while others had dropped over-the-counter teaser wagering completely.

"If you want to know why the players have been doing so well with teasers," says Russ Culver, handicapper and oddsmaker at Bally's Grand in Las Vegas, "it's because the numbers are so good. When the points spread is so accurate that it reflects the perfect separation between two teams, then the teaser gives a tremendous edge to the bettor."

It stands to reason that if NFL teams play close to the line, then bettors who are teasing the games

(gaining 6, 6 1/2, 7 or 10 points in their favor) are carrying the money from the books to the banks.

"Maybe the answer," says Russ, "is to reduce the number of teaser points. If, for example, they went to 5, 5 1/2 and 6-point teasers, maybe that would solve the problem."

But that only provides a solution for the house.

Some places, like the Union Plaza, had adjusted their odds. For the 6, 6 1/2 and 7-point teasers, bettors had to lay 11-10, 6-5 and 13-10. Others had taken down the teasers and limited the players to teaser cards only. Other places continued to accommodate their players but had reduced the limits. There was even some talk that teaser action might be gone for next season.

The problem is simple. If a place has a \$10,000 or \$20,000 limit on NFL straight bets, it takes a big wager to move the line. If big money comes in on teasers, books cannot move the number. The situation arises where there are two separate pools but one is dependent upon the odds in the other.

For example, if team A opens at -3, then, in the 6-point teaser it is +3. No matter how much teaser money is bet, that +3 does not change until the reg-

ular line moves, let's say, to -3 1/2. Then the teaser becomes +2 1/2, and so on.

Perhaps Mark Robinson, sportsbook manager for Don Lanners at Circus Circus, has the right idea with his suggestion for a separate teaser line.

"The wise guys have taken advantage of the teasers," says Mark. "Where once the teaser was a sucker's play, it has now become a bettor's tool."

Is the answer to take away a game at which the player has a chance to win?

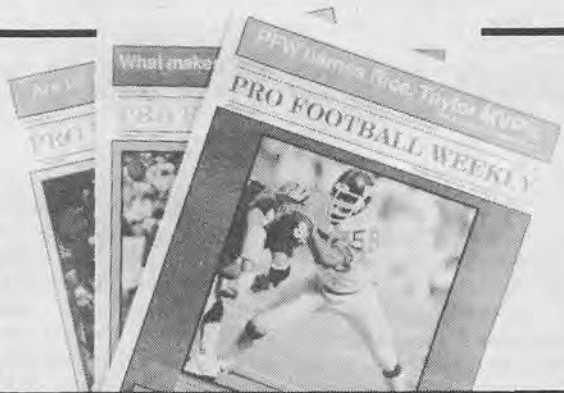
"I don't think that's a fair solution," says Mark. "The bettors have found a way to beat the book. Now the book must find a way to deter them somewhat, but not to take it away completely."

"I think the separate teaser line would be the answer. The computer can be set up for it and do most of the work. Once the teaser line can be moved without having to move the regular line, then the book will be eliminating what the wise guys are looking for. In fairness to both the player and the book, this seems the logical solution."



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Exercising the Bettor's Edge in the Playoffs

By JACK RUBIN

During the regular season and up to the playoffs, motivation is a highly significant handicapping factor. However, in the playoff situations, which find both sides highly motivated, what are the deciding variables? How may a bettor find some sort of an edge?

"When handicapping the playoffs," says Russ Culver, "the home field means nothing. I know that is going to sound like an incredible statement because so many handicappers think just the opposite.

"Because the big game is so national in stature, the 50,000 fans in the stands pale compared to the millions watching on TV. And, believe me, the players are well aware of all their fans and the significance of games viewed on the tube. After the first few minutes of the game, the home court means absolutely nothing.

"The edge here is with the visitor.

"This is a game for the money, so you know both teams are good. If a team has come this far, they know how to prepare for road games. Both sides will be ready because the money and the season is on the line. So the edge is with the extra points the bettor receives taking the visiting underdog. Or, at times, laying less points with a visiting favorite.

"However, this is the time to take advantage of the underdogs because, just as the home field is overrated, so, too, are the favorites.

"In all championship games you will find that the public overbets the favorites and the lines are too high. This is especially true in college bowls and it goes for all the top pro playoffs like the NBA and the World Series.

"The handicappers who take advantage of the extra points they receive by following visiting underdogs are the ones who win year after year," concludes Russ.

Bob Martin, the most respected oddsmaker and handicapper in the world, makes it all sound simple.

"Now that motivation is no longer a factor, it comes down to the best teams," says Bob.

So what would you look for?

"To get the best bounces," answers Bob with a smile.

Best bounce or not, knowing that one team is really coming to play makes the difference between triumph and disaster during the season. However, once postseason play begins, the intensity is the same for everybody. Everything is on the line in each game. So, with that very important variable being equal, we continued to ask some others about what becomes the deciding factor when matching the playoff teams?

"I look for an excellent defensive team with a seasoned quarterback," says Jack Lysaght, race and sportsbook director at the Riviera. "You want to find a team equally strong against the run and the pass so it doesn't have to overcompensate for a weakness in one area. You can gauge defense by total yardage."

"For the single game," says Sonny Reizner, sportsbook director of the Castaways, "an important injury becomes even more significant because the team will find it is lacking at a time when there is no room for error or weakness.

"Momentum is another valuable factor," Reizner adds. "Who is playing good ball at the end of the season and who is peaking at the right time? Since this is included by the linemaker in the spread for the player, it has to be interpreted. Has it been overemphasized or not emphasized enough by the linemaker? Numbers are very important.

"During the season there are more intangibles but now every half-point becomes so significant. With so much information available, each game can be handicapped to a much finer degree."

"Weather is one of the most important factors," says Frank Weatherholt, race and sportsbook director of the Sahara, "especially when you get a warm-weather team going into a cold climate. Also, the home-team edge means a great deal because you've got some 60,000 players against the 11 on the visiting team."

"I would place an extremely strong emphasis on the home field," says Bill Dark, owner of the Del Mar race and sportsbook. "You have to consider the crowd, the surroundings, the type of turf. With both sides all geared up, shooting for the pride and the money, mostly the money, the home court, which might be worth about two

points during the regular season, is worth about three and one-half to four points on these games."

"Experience and the coaching staff are the deciding factors for me," adds Russ Culver. "When you give a very strong coach extra time to prepare, that team will benefit the most. Major teams know each other so well that you've got to be able to throw in a few new wrinkles, some new plays.

"If you look at the bowl games, you see that the experienced teams are the ones who usually win. In the NFL, teams making the playoffs for the first time can be overwhelmed by emotion. The team that has been there has the edge in experience. You will find this team much more emotionally stable. Through the years the top, experienced pros will blow the others away."

"The home field means less in postseason play," says Michael "Roxy" Roxborough. "You have mostly all quality teams in the playoffs, especially after the initial rounds. The home field would be worth one point at this time, while it has a value of two or three during the season. These are professionals, teams so good they can win on the road. Even the crowd isn't enough to have an effect on the decision. Real pros block out the crowd.

"The one exception," Roxy concludes, "might be a warm-weather team playing in cold weather."

"Confidence is the deciding factor," says Scotty Schettler, race and sportsbook director at the Stardust. "These are all good teams, so you must look for the one with the most confidence. Some have built-in confidence. They don't know they're supposed to lose. You've got to look and see who plays like a champion and who doesn't."

"You can't expect teams to do any more right now than they have been doing the entire season," says Keith Glantz, race and sportsbook director at the Palace Station. "I look over the divisional games, the games each team had to win, and expect them to play to that form. See how they fared in the most important games and figure them for the best they could do in those situations."

While there are some conflicting opinions from these betting experts, the winning answers can be determined by the players.



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Roy Midland
December 1986

"I received Roy's letter early in December—before my phenomenal winning streak—5 straight winners on big games!*" Still, it wasn't until after this year's football season was over that the full effect of Roy's statement hit home. With 14 successful seasons behind me, lots of Cash success stories have made the rounds, but I won't be writing this year's success story with 14 years worth of facts because the facts stand on their own merit. I know that the success story that counts to you is the one starting right now. When you put it all together, without a doubt, my best year yet will be 1987. In fact, I'm so certain of that statement that I will extend this offer: you will not be required to pay me a cent until your book pays you! No one but Bobby Cash will do that. No one else can. That's because I AM GOING TO MAKE YOU A

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Professional Bettors Find the Winning Angles

By JACK RUBIN

Mathematical Michael makes a living betting in Las Vegas. It is not easy getting him to speak about how he does it. As he puts it, "I prefer not to make certain things common knowledge because, once I point something out, somebody will make a move and change it."

What may be common knowledge to many players may not be so simple to average fans not familiar with the intricacies of the professional bettor's mind.

As a sample: "You try to cross over the key numbers when you analyze the football points spread," says Michael. "There are certain key numbers like 3, 7, 10, 11, 13 and 14. You've got to know the high expectation for how often games are decided by these particular numbers."

"Then there are the dead numbers like 5, 8, 9 and 12. It is much less likely for scores to fall out separated by these figures, so you must know the values for the numbers."

"Just like in NFL totals. Thirty-seven is a monster number. It is the strongest number, the one which comes out more than any other total."

What has been a player's strong area for exploitation?

"There are areas which can be

exploited and, while I will not say exactly how, I will say that it is worth investigation by the astute investor. Sometimes certain propositions overlap each other. If you know the odds and the percentages, you can find the weaknesses.

"One point in favor of parlay cards is the idea that you might be able to find a price which is no longer available on a game. One point against them is that they pay lower odds than making the parlay over the counter. For example, over the counter a three-teamer pays 6-1 but on the card it pays only 5-1.

"You must be careful because there are times when parlay cards can appear deceptive. You might think you are getting a bargain somewhere, and it might not mean anything. For example, on a 'ties lose' parlay card, six points is the same as 5 1/2 points. Some places feature 'ties win' and then throw in lots of half-point lines. This takes away any advantage; that's if it existed in the first place."

Do teasers offer a good betting proposition?

"It takes a lot of study and hard work to beat teasers. As an example, for an even-money, two-team teaser, you must maintain a .7071 winning

average to break even. That means you must be better than about 71 percent on each game to have the best of a teaser.

"One very strong play is to tease a seven-point favorite down with a 6 1/2-point teaser. That gives you a favorite at minus-1/2. Minus-1/2 is the same as plus-1/2 or pick 'em, because you still have to win the game to win the bet. Even if you go into overtime, you have a free shot, since it is rare for a game to wind up as an overtime tie.

"There are advantages to taking some of the lowest 'totals' games and using them in a teaser. In a low-total game, each point is so much more significant than in a high-total game where lots of points mean anything can happen. In a low-total game, where it will be hard scoring points, any kind of teaser margin offers a very good opportunity. This is another area worth exploring. Right now I am checking out the specifics and the exact percentages under every possibility," Mathematical Michael concluded.

And, I guess, if it works really well, he won't be talking about it anymore.



Getting the Player's Edge — Betting 'Totals'

By JACK RUBIN

There is one area in which it is acknowledged that the bettor holds a tremendous edge over the bookmaker. It is, possibly, one of the few cases in which a knowledgeable handicapper can actually make his presence felt.

That area is "totals" wagering.

In Nevada, most sportsbooks post a points spread and a total on each NFL game. Bettors can take a side in the game or bet into the total, wagering the game will go "under" or "over" the posted figure.

Perhaps the limits placed on "totals" wagering acknowledges the player's edge.

"The proof is right there in the betting limits," says Scotty Schettler, the highly competent race and sportsbook director at the Stardust, one of the most respected "action" sportsbooks in Las Vegas. "We will take up to \$20,000 on any side in an NFL game but only \$1,000 on a total. That should make it rather clear why books don't get excited by 'totals' action — it's too easy to beat. The NFL holds truer to form. If it wasn't so easy to predict, we'd take \$40,000 on a total and \$1,000 on a side.

Information is vital in this area. Weather and injuries, obviously, can greatly influence the scoring in a game. And, when it comes to parlays,

players have a built-in edge. If you're betting a high-scoring favorite and you parlay that game with the 'over,' you're exploiting that edge. Because, generally, if that team is going to win, they're going to go over. Suppose you're playing an underdog whose only chance to cover is to outplay the favorite on defense. So, parlaying the dog and the under goes hand-in-hand. As I said, there's a built-in edge. This kind of parlay figures closer to 11-5, yet we pay out 13-5."

John Quinn, race and sportsbook director at the Union Plaza, says that totals came into play to provide more action on single events like the Monday night game. Without totals, you could play only a single bet on one side. Players love parlays. Totals provide the opportunity to parlay a side with either the under or the over.

Jack Franz, linemaker and handicapper for the Barbary Coast, claims that there is not enough volume to make totals betting attractive to the book.

"We take \$10,000 on a side and a dime (\$1,000) on an NFL total, says Franz. "We don't get any kind of volume from the general public on totals. Most of the limit action is from wise guys finding a weak spot."

Where are the weak spots?

"Weather gives these players a big edge," says Franz. "Totals, in general, are easier to handicap. And they don't have to pick the winner in order to collect. If there was enough volume and the public was ready to play, like on the Monday night game, you wouldn't care what the wise guys do."

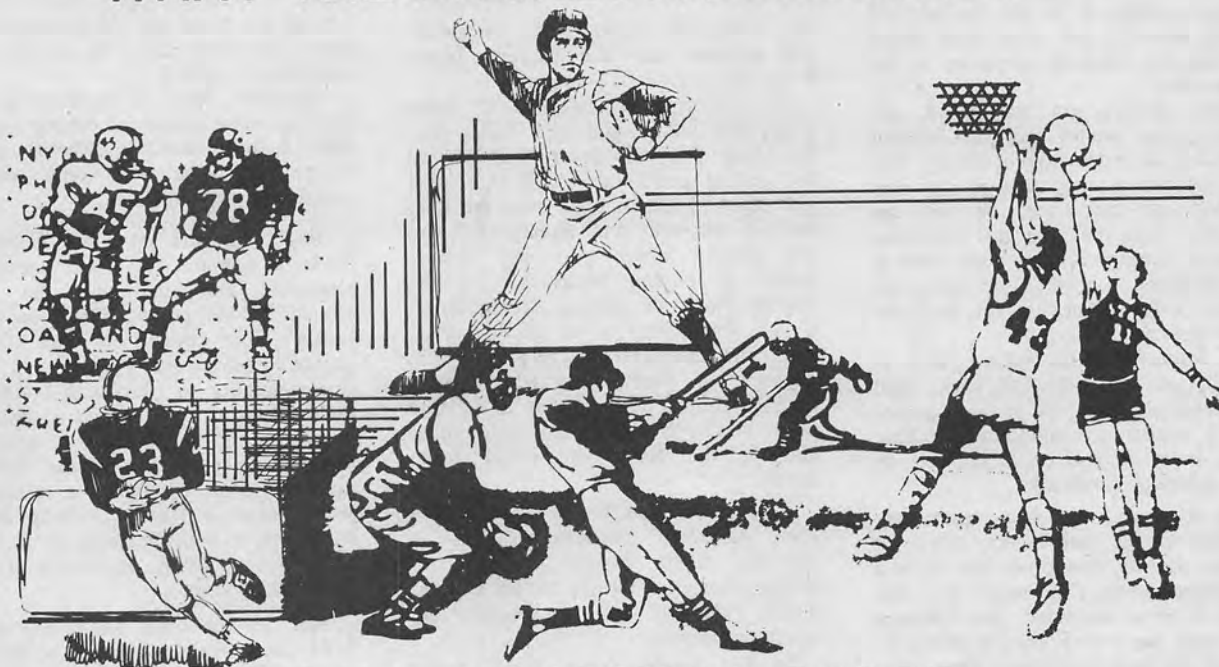
Russ Culver, linemaker and handicapper at Bally's Grand in Las Vegas, says his sportsbook also takes \$10,000 on a side and \$1,000 on a total.

"There are just more variables which give the player the edge," he declares. "The weather is the most obvious. But then, some bettors might have knowledge of a coach's intentions. A coach may have announced his game plan. He may have stated that he intends to open it up. That means he's going to a passing game, which is conducive to an 'over' game. Or, he may be going to a running game, which seems to set up an 'under' play.

"Knowing the game plan is a big factor. You might get off six incomplete or out-of-bounds passing plays for one running play. The running game keeps the score down and uses up the clock. There is less chance for turnovers. With the passing game,

(Continued on Page 17)

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To Beat Football, the Bottom Line Is Value

By JIM FEIST

To succeed in any business, you must understand things like price and value. To make it in the business of beating football, you must treat sports wagering the same as investing in the stock market.

When dealing on the stock exchange, you cannot buy at inflated prices and expect to make money. The wise investor knows that if he gets the best of the price, he will be successful over the long run. Likewise in sports betting: If you don't treat it as a business, constantly searching for the best value in prices, you have no chance to survive.

To come up with value plays in football, you have to fall back upon the historical data and analyze games from a statistical standpoint, breaking teams down into overall as well as home-and-away situations.

For example, the best teams are awesome, home and away. Look at how the Giants developed into such a dominating force. But, when you talk about history, consider the Chicago Bears and the San Francisco 49ers — not just on how they might have fared through some of last season, but overall. They have superior statistics in road games, showing that they overcome the travel and disadvantage of competing on a visiting field.

All the factors are geared at aiding you to come up with your own line, your own figure on the game. Any number of stats can be used in making a line: the point differential, scoring and points-allowed averages at home and away, offensive and defensive yards per point, yards per rush, yards per pass, etc.

You take a look at a game. One team outscored its opponents by an average of nine points last season while the other team was outscored by ten points. That's just a simple formula and you can arrive at a line by looking at those statistics. You can average those two figures and come up with nine and one-half. In a lot of cases, the line is going to mirror those kinds of differences.

If you look at all different types of statistics, measure them against the league, and then blend them together, you will get a very clear picture. You look at a team that has minus numbers against a team that has plus numbers, or a team that has bigger minus numbers than another team.

There are two reasons for making a line. A bookmaker makes a number to try to divide, as equally as possible, the public's opinion on the game. The player makes a prediction line. This is a handicapper's "true" line — his own judgment on how many points one

team may be better than another. It's the layer's line and the player's line.

The difference between the bookmaker's number and the player's figure forms the strength of a spot play.

It's important to be able to make your own line. If you can't make your own line, you will never know if you are getting good value, and you must get value in the number over the long haul in order to win money. All you are doing, when you are betting sports, is buying positions. It's like buying stock or buying commodities; if you always buy at an inflated price, you can't make money because you're paying too much for what you're getting. If you can buy at a deflated price, you've got value in your number and in the long run you'll make money.

Yet, you've got to be able to use keen judgment because nothing is absolute. Even though you set up strong rules, you've got to be able to throw value to the wind when the conditions dictate.

In last year's Super Bowl, many handicappers felt that the Giants should have been favored by six or seven points, tops, and not the eight through ten points which varied from time to time and place to place. However, the Broncos, on paper, were no match for the New Yorkers from New Jersey.

In the '85 Super Bowl between the Bears and Patriots, Chicago should not have been such a big favorite. However, in looking at the game from a standpoint of comparisons, New England didn't match up. Even though the line probably should have been seven, instead of ten, or higher, there was no way I could have played New England just because there was value in the number.

The difference is in knowing what you are doing, because you can't go by the book all the time. You've got to look at the situation and say something like, "The Chicago Bears at this time are playing far and above what statistics bear out. New England has gotten to the Super Bowl by virtue of turnovers. Now they are meeting a team that is even better at playing the turnover game, a team that is going to attack — on offense and defense. This is a team that lost only once the entire year, a team that physically dominated them in an earlier event."

If the Super Bowl were one of 14 games on a Sunday afternoon, it would be different. But, in this event, one of the teams, traditionally, dominates the other. So, you look for the most dominant team — not for the team that takes advantage of the breaks. You

look for the team that is going to make something happen. Pick the winner of the game and 75 percent of the time you don't have to worry about covering the spread.

However, there is more to gain in playing value situations during the regular season than in playoff games where all teams will come with an equal amount of intensity.

Now, let's back up a bit. We've just made a line on the game, using our statistics. The line says the game should be ten points. Then the bookmaker's line comes out and it's ten points. That means you have a legitimate number to play with — there's no underlay or overlay and no compensation being made for a sandwich situation (a game sandwiched between more significant games; a game the week before a team's "looking ahead" to a major confrontation, or a week after a big battle, indicating a "let-down" is expected).

But, on the other hand, let's say a bookmaker realizes there's a situation involved and makes the line 8 in anticipation that one team figures to let down after a very tough game. Now, a quantitative decision must be made on your part, whether to take the dog, accepting a few less points than you should be receiving because the other team is in a sandwich situation. That's where judgment comes into play. There are times when the bookmaker will not put that in the number and you will have a "free play" on that game; you will be paying no extra price in the number for the benefit of having that sandwich situation going for you. But, sometimes he will make that adjustment and you will have to make a choice of whether or not to accept a shaved number.

To summarize, first you establish your line and then compare it with the betting line. Then, look for situations, such as revenge, sandwiches, looking ahead, letdowns. Look for pointspread situations where you might have a strong team getting points. These teams have more of a chance pulling an upset than, say, a weak team getting ten points. That's because they have the quality athletes and the quality coaching.

Then, you might look at a valid theory like: If a team scores a substantial number of points for three successive weeks and wins those games, in their fourth game, the cycle backs up on them for two reasons. One, since they've been scoring a lot of points and winning, the oddsmaker and public perceive them to be stronger than they might be, so they increase the line on that team. And

Bottom Line Is Value (Continued from Page 16)

two, teams do not generally do well in long runs. After three weeks of showing such fine form, the public is now on their back, thinking they will be better than they actually are. This team is now due for some minor correction and you get the best of an inflated price if you go against them.

Going back to the stock market again. You check the Dow Jones and

people think it's due for a correction. That means it's overvalued and people are going to come in and take some profits because they feel that the market is overpriced. Then there are other people who do not think it's overpriced and they will come in and buy.

The same thing with a team. The team is doing well and people jump on

the bandwagon, making their price too high. Then the value players will realize this and go against them. If you follow the analogy, it's absolutely the same.

Investing in sports or the stock market must be treated as strictly business. Knowing the value of prices will make you a winner.



Betting 'Totals' (Continued from Page 14)

there are more chances for turnovers and cheap touchdowns. Often, the ball is thrown up for grabs. There is more opportunity for scoring with less time being used up.

"A coach might say he's got a surprise in store for the other team. That means he's going to a passing game and it's an 'over' situation. He wouldn't talk about surprises if he was going to a running plan. He's referring to passing and opening it up.

"Then, injuries are very significant. One team might revolve around the running game. Their key man might

get hurt, and they will have to throw more often. Their pass-to-run mixture will undergo drastic changes. Where it once was dominated by running plays, you will find a better mixture or a more pass-favoring attack. Injuries force teams to make adjustments."

"We get a lot of money betting 'under' on the totals when the weather is bad," says Sonny Reizner, sportsbook director of the Castaways and general spokesman for the entire sportsbook industry. "Heavy rain or snow stops the momentum, and teams are forced to play a conservative type

of game. Sure, it can backfire, but the wise guy is looking for that edge before the line can be adjusted."

Some bettors complain because of the limits placed upon 'totals' wagering.

"Even though we limit the totals action here at the Stardust," says Scotty Schettler, "it's a lot better than you can get at some other places that only take a few hundred dollars. And some only take the TV games. We're not running away. We're not afraid of the challenge."



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CLIP AND SAVE



Class Always Tells for Football Handicappers

By EDMUND SLICK

Players know that class always tells. This is, possibly, one of the strongest handicapping factors. Exactly how should this variable come into play in football?

There are class teams: the ones which seem to overcome any and all obstacles to come through with victories a high percentage of the time. Teams like the Chicago Bears and the San Francisco 49ers. But, when you go to bet on these teams, you will have the price of that class already attached to the points spread. What the football handicapper needs to know is how to find class within a class. This would allow the bettor to classify all the teams and grade them accordingly.

One of the most significant factors in this area is the difference between winning because of lucky turnovers or just good breaks, as opposed to winning because you made things happen and just out-and-out dominated the play. Some teams earn their victories while others have the wins handed to them. It is important to know when the key deciding factor in a final score was the result of sloppiness or keen athletic skills. It is essential to know this when grading a matchup for the following week. However, at times it is a difficult determination to make since the loser will say, "They didn't beat us, we beat ourselves by the way we played." And the winner will say, "We forced them to make mistakes."

There are times when you will get a team that makes things happen at a bargain price. They will be on the road against a team which has been getting the breaks and coming out on top as a result of bad play by their opponents. The home team might be favored by a few points or, at the worst, the visitor might be a slight choice. Regardless, you could have a solid play straight-up while even taking a few points just in case you wind up needing a cushion. Or, if your class team is at home, you might play the points with confidence.

Seattle looked fine early this past season. The first three weeks the Seahawks rolled over the Steelers, 30-0, beat Kansas City and dumped the Patriots in New England. They then went to Washington and played their hearts out against a very tough team. Trailing 19-14 and driving, the Seahawks were thwarted by an interception in the endzone in the final minute of the game.

In their next outing, the Seahawks were at home against the Chargers. Here was the opportunistic defense and the explosive offense of the Seahawks against a team plagued by interceptions and fumbles. The single touchdown looked easy before the game and easier as the play unfolded.

San Diego scored first and the



quarter ended 7-0. Seattle seemed to falter when it counted and had to settle for two field goals in the second frame, which found them trailing 7-6 when it ended. But they were there and came out to play in the third quarter; Seattle led 23-7 when the smoke cleared. Another 10 points were added in the final segment to complete the 33-7 destruction of the Chargers.

A similar situation took place with the Buffalo Bills. In their second game of the season, in Cincinnati, they were battling and deadlocked at 33 at the end of regulation time. It took an interception in overtime to set up the field goal which beat them. Their next game was against the uninspired Cardinals. Buffalo was at home and favored by four points. After a scoreless first quarter, the Bills made it 10-0 for the halftime break. The score was 10-3 entering the final quarter and they traded touchdowns en route to a 17-10 final.

When the Bengals invaded Cleveland and whipped the Browns 30-13, it was obvious that the winners faced a poor defense that game, a defense which couldn't make things happen. The Cincinnati offense, which often goes without a huddle, seemed in lots of trouble should they come up against a strong and wise defense.

The following week they met such a team. At home against the Bears, money on the Bengals moved the line from Bears -6 down to -4. Imagine, only having to lay four points with the Bears against a team tailor-made for them to exploit. The boys from Chicago were relentless and poured it on. They ended the initial quarter leading 21-0 and had a 24-7 lead at

halftime. It was 38-7 after three quarters and the final was 44-7.

When certain teams run up the score because of poor defense, watch out when they suddenly come up against a club which can render them powerless. With most of the offenses in the NFL regarded as totally professional, it is the quality of the opposing defenses which determines the scoring output. The Vikings ran up a score of 96-24 in knocking over the Bucs, Steelers and Packers. But it was no great surprise when the final was Bears 23, Vikings 0, when they left the field in Chicago.

Situations in which winners go up against winners provide the handicapper with the best opportunities for separating the teams which have won on class from the clubs which capitalized on weaknesses, opportunities and mistakes. Yes, defenses can force teams into making mistakes but there is a marked difference between a team which is turnover-prone and one which is outplayed by a strong defense. As the season goes on, some teams improve while others weaken, in certain areas, due to many factors like injuries, etc. Handicappers, in order to remain successful, must know how to classify the clubs according to the nature of their victories and their mode of play. Just like knowing which teams play better at home or on the road, on natural or artificial turf, etc., this element of the game should prove even more of a dominating factor.

If you hope to win by uncovering mismatches, this area offers you the strongest value possible with the highest degree of success potential.



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Betting Television Games

By CHIPPER CHIRIMBES

The following are the five most important considerations when betting TV games:

1. Where the game will be shown.
2. Media impression of the game.
3. Which team "needs" the game.
4. Last outing.
5. Tendency to bet more.

- ■ ■
1. Where will the game be shown?

Every Monday during the football season, I diligently list all the college and pro games that are going to be televised that weekend. This list becomes quite large because all pro games are televised and, with cable and satellite broadcasting being what it is, there can be as many as 30 college games aired. After listing the games, I note the "time" and the "network" that will carry the broadcast nationally. You'll be surprised at how many Saturdays and Sundays there are when there are no national games televised. Now we must establish "where" these games will be aired and which ones are nationally, regionally and locally broadcast. We then turn our attention to "the game" that will attract the most viewers. There is a good chance that if there is no national game that weekend, the most widely televised game will not be in your area, but that doesn't mean that we can't get something out of that game. The rationale here is that "the game" will provide the most information to the public, therefore aiding our ability to make the proper evaluation of that game.

2. Media impressions of the game.

The two major media forms, newspapers and television, leave many impressions of the upcoming games. Television networks will run promos with outstanding running backs breaking into the clear for a touchdown while the newsprint media will work on your subliminal mind, feeding you stories and statistics that play a part on influencing your final decision. Often these media forms will present more "hype" to promo "the game" and create a distorted view of the game. Remember that football is a team game and that no one player can defeat a group that plays as a team. Also remember the players themselves watch television and read the newspapers and any team that feels it's slighted in the media will play as though it was fighting for its life and has something to prove. Know what, it usually does!

3. Which team "needs" the game?

So now we've found a game that is televised nationally and the networks and newspapers are exploiting the fact



that Alabama "must win" or they will drop out of the SEC lead or that they will be eliminated from the Sugar Bowl birth. If this is the situation, I would more than likely make a play "against" Alabama as the media will hype them as being in a must-win game. Alabama enters this game with all the pressure on its shoulders, and its opponents can play a game where they can take the proper risks and have no fear of failing. They have nothing to lose and will play with reckless abandon. The Crimson Tide will not be a bargain with the bookmakers, as most of the public sentiment will feel that the team in "need" will emerge victorious. Maybe so, but most likely the Tide won't cover the inflated price.

4. Last outing.

Often when a school is playing a nationally televised game against a strong opponent, the coach will schedule a weak sister to help instill confidence before its big exposure. The school, in turn, routs this team and appears for the first time on TV as a national powerhouse that is almost unbeatable. Again in this situation the price will be inflated and you should "play against" the team that routed a weakling the previous week. Another consideration of the previous week is when these major schools have had the week off and they come into this encounter with two weeks to prepare and they will be both physically and mentally ready. I always look to play the team with two weeks to prepare for

a nationally televised game.

5. Tendency to bet more.

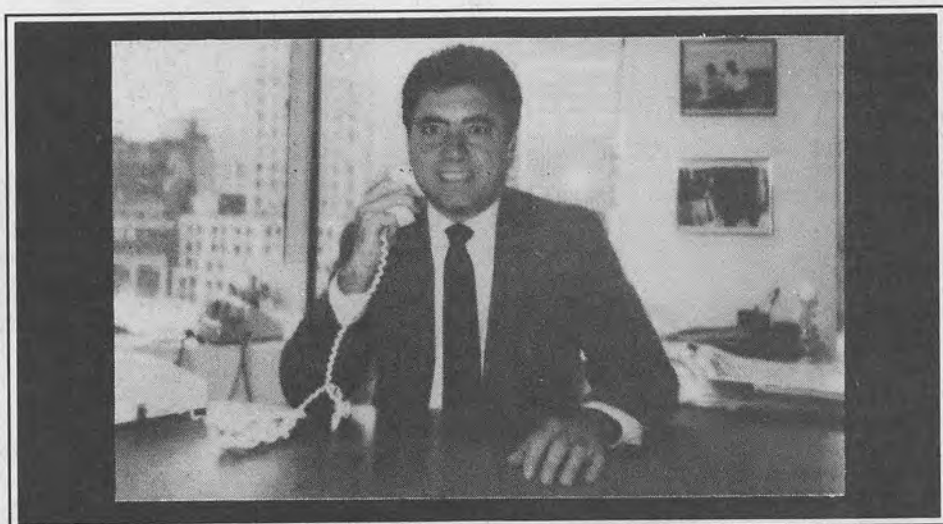
Whether the game is televised nationally or not, if it's the game that you have to watch, more than likely you are going to make a wager on that game. Often this isn't even a game that you would ordinarily bet, but, because it's the game you will watch, then you will have "action" on this game. This is no way to make money during the season because you will bet most of these games with your heart and your selection wasn't made rationally. Most likely you will bet these regional or local broadcasts on the home team; it's just instinct that you not only know more of the local team but you will root for it as well. Objectivity goes out the window when you "play" these games.

Satellite dish owners must show even more discipline and restraint as they are able to receive all games broadcast and they have a tendency to bet more money on more games. This, of course, can lead to quite a large "sheet" because on any given Saturday, as stated before, there can be as many as 30 games televised.

Betting television games can be profitable if you know what to look for and what to do with the information once you've found it. Remember to avoid "playing" a game just because it's being televised in your area, be patient, pick your spots and good luck.



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Previewing NFL Trends for 1987: The AFC

By EDMUND SLICK

The ability to uncover trends involving NFL teams, and to apply that information in order to anticipate upcoming events, is the secret behind winning handicapping. To aid bettors in sharpening their forecasting skills, allow me to present a rundown of the AFC teams and the expected trends.

BUFFALO — Is unpredictable against the number, but a good spot play against the New York Jets, as its 11-2 underdog record since 1973 would indicate. The Bills covered the spread against the Jets both times last year, losing 28-24 as a 6 1/2-point home "dog" and 14-13 as a 9-point road underdog.

CINCINNATI — Owns an extremely poor 19-33 mark as a road favorite since 1969, including an 0-4 record in that position last season. The slow-starting Bengals were 2-5 against the spread in their first seven games in 1985 and 1-7 against the number in their first eight outings last season. That trend has a good chance of repeating in '87, as the Bengals will have San Francisco, the Los Angeles Rams, Seattle and Cleveland among their first six opponents.

CLEVELAND — Entering the '86 campaign, the Browns had covered the spread five consecutive times against the Steelers. Last season, both matchups ended in a "push." In addition, the favorite has won all seven matchups in the Browns-Bills series.

DENVER — Hasn't enjoyed great success on Monday Night Football, going 5-12 since 1970. The Broncos and San Diego have slipped "under" the posted total in 11 of their 16 matchups, including both games last season.

HOUSTON — Owns a 15-28 record against the spread on artificial turf since 1979. The 1987 season finds the Oilers playing just three of their eight road games on the fake grass.

INDIANAPOLIS — Since 1981, the Colts possess a dismal 8-30-1 straight-up record as a home "dog," including a 1-7 mark in that role last season. The Colts are 1-16 straight-up and 3-11-3 in the underdog role against Miami since 1976.

KANSAS CITY — Is a neat 10-2 against the spread when playing the



role of a home underdog since 1983, including two straight-up wins last season against Cincinnati and Denver as a home "dog."

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS — Are an impressive 9-2 versus the number at home on Monday Night Football. The Raiders have covered the spread against Miami in five of their last six meetings, including the last four in a row. The Raiders are 34-13 straight-up on natural turf since 1983.

MIAMI — Is 11-1-1 as a home underdog since 1976 and is 16-6 as an underdog anywhere since 1981. The Dolphins, with a 9-1 straight-up record in both 1984 and 1985, were just 4-4 straight-up at home last season. This year's home schedule features meetings with both New York clubs, as well as Washington and New England.

NEW ENGLAND — The Patriots, 7-1 against the spread at home in 1985, were just 2-6 in that situation last season. New England has had great success against the Jets and the Dolphins at home since 1976, going 8-3 straight-up against the New Yorkers and 9-2 against Miami.

NEW YORK JETS — Own a woeful 24-45 record as a home favorite since 1969, including a dismal 1-7 mark last season. The underdog is 22-12 in the Jets-Dolphins rivalry.

PITTSBURGH — Is 2-9 as a favorite on natural grass the past eight seasons. The Steelers are 4-13 as a favorite of three points or less the last eight years. Pittsburgh has failed to cover the spread against Cleveland in each of the last seven meetings, going 0-5 with two games falling directly on the number (both pushes occurred last season).

SAN DIEGO — Is 13-7 against the spread on Monday Night Football since 1970. The Chargers have covered the spread just twice in their last 10 meetings with Kansas City.

SEATTLE — Possesses an impressive 46-3-3 pointspread edge in all games played at the Kingdome, including a 6-2 mark last season. The Seahawks have covered the spread in seven of their last eight outings with San Diego, including both games last year.



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How to Win in Football Betting

By LARRY NESS

A new football season is about to begin, and we are all starting to prepare for it. Each weekend, from September to January, scores of games will be brought into our homes all over the country with the result that players and coaches become familiar household names. Millions of dollars are wagered weekly on these games, so let's take a realistic look at what it takes to make money betting on pro football.

Most people will agree that there are three basic approaches to successful handicapping: fundamental, technical and statistical.

The fundamental approach involves the matching up of individual player and team strengths in an effort to decide which team has an advantage personnel wise.

The technical approach deals with team characteristics or trends, such as how a team plays at home or on the road, as a favorite or underdog and on grass or artificial turf.

The statistical approach focuses on

basic stats such as yards rushing and passing and their relationship to the points spread. A more sophisticated statistic is yards per point average, which not only measures the strength of a team, but gives an indication of its opportunistic tendencies.

The information gathered from the above approaches is available to all from numerous sources. The difference between being a winner or a loser depends on how one utilizes this information and the consistency with which he applies it throughout the season. There is no single set of rules or methods which will guarantee success, because the elements of handicapping are interpreted differently by each individual depending on his experience and knowledge of the spot. What is important to one carries little weight with another. In effect, each person sets his own rules, thereby becoming a winner or loser.

There are many people who are good at gathering, analyzing and disseminating information who do well

at handicapping and picking winners before their money is on the line. However, the real test comes when you actually take money out of your pocket and place your wager. Now it's out there to win or lose. Whether you will be a consistent winner or loser depends on your approach. Initially you must establish your goals and expectations. It is important to remember that a winning percentage of 57 percent to 60 percent makes you a big winner. Too many people believe that a much higher percentage is required. Winning 60 percent does not mean winning six out of every 10 wagers. Betting is a business of winning and losing streaks. During a losing streak it is important to continue the practices that have been successful for you in the past. Strange as it may seem, losing is an element in the process of winning.

In the final analysis, winning or losing is basically up to you. It is a high-risk situation that can be highly rewarding.



Larry Ness (left) with trophy signifying 1985 Castaways Pro Football Challenge Championship.

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Previewing NFL Trends for 1987: The NFC

BY EDMUND SLICK

Continuing with the NFC, here are the trends which could turn the coming season into a party for the players.

ATLANTA — The Falcons boast a 30-20 record as a home underdog since 1968 but are just 12-24 as road favorites during that same span. Look for both trends to continue in '87.

CHICAGO — From 1981 to '85, the Bears were a nifty 8-1-1 when favored at home between 7 1/2 and 10 points. However, last season, the Bears reversed the trend, going 0-5 in that same situation.

DALLAS — Lost its seventh consecutive road finale by dropping a 29-10 decision to the Rams last year. This season, the Rams will again provide the opposition in Dallas' last road outing. The Cowboys have also covered the spread against the St. Louis Cardinals in seven of their last nine meetings.

DETROIT — Is just 12-24 as an away favorite since 1969. The Lions, traditionally strong at home, were a woeful 1-7 straight-up last year at the Silverdome. Four of those seven home losses were in the favorite's role. The poor home record could continue in '87 as the Lions must host such non-division opponents as Seattle, Dallas and the Los Angeles Rams.

GREEN BAY — As an away dog on natural grass, the Packers are just 13-30-1 since 1969. The Green Bay-Detroit series has seen the home favorite cover just eight times in 26 tries over the past 17 years.

LOS ANGELES RAMS — The home team is a noteworthy 23-7 in the Rams-Saints matchup for the past 18 years, including a perfect 4-0 the past two seasons.

MINNESOTA — Ended a string of six consecutive non-cover efforts against Chicago by defeating the Bears straight-up last season, 23-7, as an 8 1/2-point home underdog. On the other hand, the Vikings have covered the number against Tampa Bay in eight of their last 10 meetings, including the last five in a row.

NEW ORLEANS — Is 9-17 as a home favorite the past eight years. Including last year's 31-10 loss to Atlanta, the Saints have now failed to cover the spread in their regular-



season opener seven times in the last eight seasons. The trend has a good chance to continue in '87, as the Saints must play the Cleveland Browns in the season's lid-lifter.

NEW YORK GIANTS — Were 23-39 as home favorites the past 17 seasons, but last year were a fine 6-1-1 in that role. The underdog is 22-11 in the Giants-Washington series.

PHILADELPHIA — Has the Giants' number, going 13-4 against them in the underdog role since 1969. The Eagles are 12-6 as a "dog" on natural grass since 1979.

ST. LOUIS — Entering the 1986 season, the Cardinals were just 7-24 against the spread versus Washington since 1969. Last year, the Cardinals covered the spread in both meetings. The Cardinals are 2-13-1 straight-up on the road the past two seasons.

SAN FRANCISCO — Owns a neat 13-4 record as favorites on artificial turf since 1979. The 49ers are 27-7-1 straight-up on natural turf the past three seasons. In each of the last five meetings with Minnesota, the combined number of points has hopped "over" the posted total.

TAMPA BAY — Is a woeful 16-31 as home favorites since joining the NFL in 1976, which includes a 1-7 mark last season. The Bucs have not covered the spread against Chicago in 13 of their last 14 meetings, including the last nine in a row.

WASHINGTON — Owns an impressive 12-2 pointspread record at home on Monday Night Football. The Redskins are a fine 11-3 as an underdog on natural grass since 1979, including covers against San Diego and Denver last year.





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NFL PRE-SEASON HALL OF FAME GAME (At Canton, Ohio) Saturday, August 8, 1987

P=PACIFIC C=CENTRAL E=EASTERN (N)=NIGHT GAME	LINE	SCORE
1 SAN FRANCISCO 49ers 9:00P 11:00C 12:00E		
2 KANSAS CITY CHIEFS		

LONDON BOWL (At London, England) Sunday, August 9, 1987

3 LOS ANGELES RAMS 10:00P 12:00C 1:00E		
4 DENVER BRONCOS		

NFL PRE-SEASON WEEK 1 Thursday, August 13, 1987

P=PACIFIC C=CENTRAL E=EASTERN (N)=NIGHT GAME	LINE	SCORE
1 KANSAS CITY CHIEFS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
2 HOUSTON OILERS		
3 SEATTLE SEAHAWKS (N) 7:30P 9:30C 10:30E		
4 LOS ANGELES RAMS		

Friday, August 14, 1987

5 PITTSBURGH STEELERS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
6 WASHINGTON REDSKINS		

Saturday, August 15, 1987

7 CINCINNATI BENGALS (N) 4:00P 6:00C 7:00E		
8 TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS		
9 ST. LOUIS CARDINALS (N) 4:30P 6:30C 7:30E		
10 CLEVELAND BROWNS		
11 INDIANAPOLIS COLTS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
12 DETROIT LIONS		
13 MINNESOTA VIKINGS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
14 NEW ORLEANS SAINTS		
15 PHILADELPHIA EAGLES (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
16 NEW YORK JETS		
17 BUFFALO BILLS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
18 ATLANTA FALCONS		
19 DALLAS COWBOYS (N) 6:00P 8:00C 9:00E		
20 SAN DIEGO CHARGERS		
21 GREEN BAY PACKERS (N) 7:00P 9:00C 10:00E		
22 DENVER BRONCOS* At Tampa		
23 SAN FRANCISCO 49ers (N) 7:00P 9:00C 10:00E		
24 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS		

Sunday, August 16, 1987

25 NEW YORK GIANTS 10:30P 12:30C 1:30E		
26 NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS		
27 CHICAGO BEARS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
28 MIAMI DOLPHINS		

1987 NFL PRE-

NFL PRE-SEASON WEEK 2 Saturday, August 22, 1987

P=PACIFIC C=CENTRAL E=EASTERN (N)=NIGHT GAME	LINE	SCORE
1 WASHINGTON REDSKINS 11:00P 1:00C 2:00E		
2 G.B. PACKERS* At Madison		
3 PITTSBURGH STEELERS (N) 4:00P 6:00C 7:00E		
4 CHICAGO BEARS		
5 NEW YORK JETS (N) 4:00P 6:00C 7:00E		
6 TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS		
7 CINCINNATI BENGALS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
8 DETROIT LIONS		
9 HOUSTON OILERS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
10 NEW ORLEANS SAINTS		
11 CLEVELAND BROWNS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
12 NEW YORK GIANTS		
13 INDIANAPOLIS COLTS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
14 MINNESOTA VIKINGS		
15 SEATTLE SEAHAWKS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
16 ST. LOUIS CARDINALS		
17 ATLANTA FALCONS (N) 5:30P 7:30C 8:30E		
18 KANSAS CITY CHIEFS		
19 DALLAS COWBOYS (N) 6:00P 8:00C 9:00E		
20 SAN FRANCISCO 49ers		
21 BUFFALO BILLS (N) 6:00P 8:00C 9:00E		
22 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS		

Sunday, August 23, 1987

23 PHILADELPHIA EAGLES (N) 4:00P 6:00C 7:00E		
24 NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS		
25 LOS ANGELES RAMS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
26 SAN DIEGO CHARGERS		

Monday, August 24, 1987

27 MIAMI DOLPHINS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
28 DENVER BRONCOS		

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NFL PRE-SEASON WEEK 3 Thursday, August 27, 1987

P=PACIFIC C=CENTRAL E=EASTERN (N)=NIGHT GAME	LINE	SCORE
1 SAN DIEGO CHARGERS (N) 6:00P 8:00C 9:00E		
2 SAN FRANCISCO 49ers		

Friday, August 28, 1987

3 DETROIT LIONS (N) 7:30P 9:30C 10:30E		
4 SEATTLE SEAHAWKS		

Saturday, August 29, 1987

5 NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS 12:00P 2:00C 3:00E		
6 MINNESOTA VIKINGS		
7 WASHINGTON REDSKINS (N) 4:00P 6:00C 7:00E		
8 TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS		
9 MIAMI DOLPHINS (N) 4:30P 6:30C 7:30E		
10 PHILADELPHIA EAGLES		
11 HOUSTON OILERS (N) 5:30P 7:30C 8:30E		
12 INDIANAPOLIS COLTS		
13 CLEVELAND BROWNS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
14 ATLANTA FALCONS		
15 CINCINNATI BENGALS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
16 GREEN BAY PACKERS		
17 PITTSBURGH STEELERS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
18 NEW ORLEANS SAINTS		
19 BUFFALO BILLS (N) 5:30P 7:30C 8:30E		
20 KANSAS CITY CHIEFS		
21 NEW YORK JETS (N) 6:00P 8:00C 9:00E		
22 NEW YORK GIANTS		
23 DENVER BRONCOS (N) 7:00P 9:00C 10:00E		
24 LOS ANGELES RAMS		

Sunday, August 30, 1987

27 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
28 DALLAS COWBOYS		

Monday, August 31, 1987

29 ST. LOUIS CARDINALS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
30 CHICAGO BEARS		

NFL PRE-SEASON WEEK 4 Thursday, September 3, 1987

P=PACIFIC C=CENTRAL E=EASTERN (N)=NIGHT GAME	LINE	SCORE
1 DETROIT LIONS (N) 4:30P 6:30C 7:30E		
2 PHILADELPHIA EAGLES		
3 MINNESOTA VIKINGS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
4 DENVER BRONCOS		

Friday, September 4, 1987

5 NEW ORLEANS SAINTS (N) 4:35P 6:35C 7:35E		
6 CINCINNATI BENGALS		
7 NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
8 ATL. FALCONS* At Jacksonville		
9 SAN FRANCISCO 49ers (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
10 SEATTLE SEAHAWKS		
11 BUFFALO BILLS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
12 MIAMI DOLPHINS		
13 NEW YORK JETS (N) 7:00P 9:00C 10:00E		
14 SAN DIEGO CHARGERS		

Saturday, September 5, 1987

57 CHICAGO BEARS 1:00P 3:00C 4:00E		
58 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS		
59 CLEVELAND BROWNS (N) 5:00P 7:00C 8:00E		
60 GREEN BAY PACKERS* At Minn.		
61 TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS (N) 5:30P 7:30C 8:30E		
62 INDIANAPOLIS COLTS		
63 HOUSTON OILERS (N) 6:00P 8:00C 9:00E		
64 DALLAS COWBOYS		
65 NEW YORK GIANTS (N) 6:00P 8:00C 9:00E		
66 PITTSBURGH STEELERS		
67 WASHINGTON REDSKINS (N) 6:00P 8:00C 9:00E		
68 LOS ANGELES RAMS		

Sunday, September 6, 1987

69 KANSAS CITY CHIEFS 11:30P 1:30C 2:30E		
70 ST. L. CARDINALS* At Memphis		

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Jim Feist's 1987 NFL Predictions

AFC EAST

1. New England Patriots
2. New York Jets
3. Miami Dolphins
4. Indianapolis Colts
5. Buffalo Bills

AFC CENTRAL

1. Cleveland Browns
2. Cincinnati Bengals
3. Pittsburgh Steelers
4. Houston Oilers

AFC WEST

1. Denver Broncos
2. Seattle Seahawks
3. Kansas City Chiefs
4. Los Angeles Raiders
5. San Diego Chargers

Wild-Card Teams

Seattle Seahawks
New York Jets

AFC CHAMPION

Denver Broncos

NFC EAST

1. New York Giants
2. Washington Redskins
3. Dallas Cowboys
4. St. Louis Cardinals
5. Philadelphia Eagles

NFC CENTRAL

1. Chicago Bears
2. Minnesota Vikings
3. Green Bay Packers
4. Detroit Lions
5. Tampa Bay Buccaneers

NFC WEST

1. San Francisco 49ers
2. Los Angeles Rams
3. New Orleans Saints
4. Atlanta Falcons

Wild-Card Teams

Washington Redskins
Los Angeles Rams

NFC CHAMPION

Chicago Bears

SUPER BOWL

Chicago Bears
over
Denver Broncos

New England Patriots

After posting its second straight 11-5 record under head coach Raymond Berry despite the lowest-ranked rushing attack in the NFL and a defense that was missing star OLB Andre Tippett for five games due to a knee injury, New England should be considered a top contender for the Super Bowl again this season.

The Patriots compensated for their mystifyingly feeble ground game with one of the league's most explosive aerial shows, featuring 10-year veteran WR Stanley Morgan, the team's runaway MVP after collecting a team-record 84 catches for an AFC-best 1,491 yards.

They also received tremendous efforts from the QB combo of Tony Eason and Steve Grogan (who called all the signals) in registering the league's second-highest point total.

But better balance and the kind of ball control they demonstrated in their Cinderella Super Bowl season in '85 are necessities if the Pats hope to recapture the crown they relinquished to Denver in last year's AFC championship game.

With John Hannah, one of the game's all-time great guards, retiring last season, and TE Lin Dawson sitting out the entire '86 season after blowing out a knee in SB XX versus Chicago, the Patriot front wall had extreme trouble opening holes all season.

The Pats made a major move to improve their protection in the off-season by obtaining OG Sean Farrell from Tampa Bay in exchange for three '86 draft picks, and with the addition of No. 1 pick OG-OT Bruce Armstrong out of Louisville, they hope their reliable rushing offense will be resurrected.

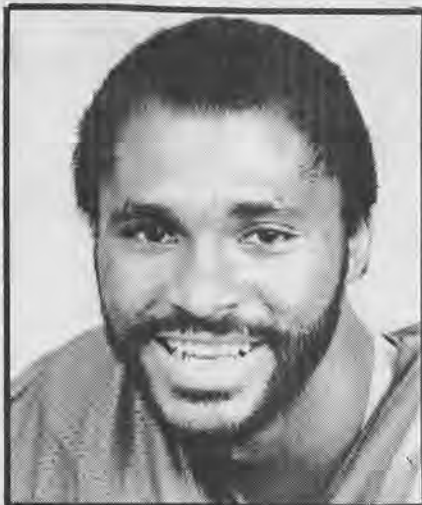
But they also must improve their spotty rushing defense (24th in the NFL), which was hampered significantly in '86 by injuries to DE Ken Sims (back) and NT Mike Ruth (knee).

Quarterbacks

Arguably the best in the league, when one considers the total picture, Eason set team records in '86 for completions and passing percentage and, in one stretch, threw 179 straight passes without an interception, a team record. When he was forced to sit out two games with rib injuries, all Grogan did was throw three TD's in each game, one of which also featured a 401-yard performance (vs. the N.Y. Jets). Grogan was also outstanding in relief vs. Miami in the regular-season finale, bringing New England from behind with two fourth-quarter TD tosses. The third-stringer, former USFLer Tom Ramsey, is no slouch, either.

Running backs

Absolutely awful last year, as the Pats averaged only 85.8 rushing yards per game and 2.9 yards per carry.



Patriot WR Stanley Morgan

Craig James, who made the Pro Bowl in '85 when he rushed for 1,227 yards, was bothered by nagging shoulder and knee problems. Tony Collins, who verified season-long rumors when he checked into a drug rehab clinic in late April, did manage to catch 77 passes. Others in this disappointing cast are short-yardage ace Mose Tatupu and '86 No. 1 pick Reggie Dupard, injured much of last year with a severe case of turf toe. The Patriots' No. 2 pick this year, Michigan FB Bob Perryman, is a bruising blue-collar type who should get a huge chance to show his stuff.

Receivers

Excellent. Besides Morgan, there's the exciting Irving Fryar (both on and off the field), speed demon Stephen Starring (18.4-yard average), sure-handed Cedric Jones and Derwin Williams. If he can stay away from kitchen knives and tree stumps and work on being more consistent, Fryar could be all-world. The Pats really could use a healthy Dawson at tight end, especially for his blocking ability. Late-round rookie Greg Baty made some clutch catches, but he needs to be more physical. Also pitching in at TE are converted RB Greg Hawthorne and former No. 1 Willie Scott.

Offensive line

Should be real interesting. Farrell prefers right guard spot, but the Patriots envision him as a swing man, especially since drafting Armstrong. Age is beginning to take toll on LT Brian Holloway, who had knee problems last year and wasn't nearly as effective without his old pal Hannah, and especially 11-year vet Pete Brock in the pivot. Paul Fairchild, who had foot problems the second half of '86, had a rough time replacing Hannah, while Darryl Haley stepped in at right tackle after 300-pound-plus Steve Moore fractured an ankle. Last year's starter at right guard, Ron Wooten, is adequate at best. Trevor Matich, 6-8

Art Plunkett (on I.R. with a knee injury in '86) and Bill Bain in reserve.

Defensive line

Inexperience showed, as rookie Brent Williams was pushed into the DLE picture when Sims got hurt and Toby Williams took over on the nose after playing outside his three prior years. Brent made reasonable progress, leading the team in fumble recoveries, but the defensive front's biggest big-play specialist was DRE Garin Veris, with 11 sacks, seven batted passes, four forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries. But this unit needs a steady run stuffer badly, and complete recoveries by Sims and Ruth are keys.

Linebackers

Injuries really took their toll at this position, but the Pats' plentiful depth enabled them to persevere. Tippett, who never went on I.R. last year, gets most of the ink, but New England's other outside linebacker, Don Blackmon, is equally valuable, providing a strong, steady influence. Other particularly creditable performers due to their flexibility in '86 were Lawrence McGrew, who handled three different LB positions in 15 starting assignments, and Johnny Rembert, who alternated between both inside posts in 11 starts. Veteran Steve Nelson, on I.R. the final four games of the season with a knee injury, remains more than respectable as the starting left backer when healthy. Ed Reynolds is a solid reserve, and Clayton Weishuhn would be a big bonus if he could shake his injury bugaboo.

Defensive backs

Unlike the LB position, the Patriots' starting secondary of RCB Ray Clayborn, LCB Ronnie Lippett, SS Roland James and FS Fred Marion was among the most durable in the NFL, staying intact all but two regular-season games. Like Morgan on offense, Clayborn seems to get better with age, as opposing QB's continue to avoid him like the plague. Clayborn's exceptional cover ability was a big reason behind Lippett's excellent season (eight interceptions). Marion and James finished one-two in tackles. Jim Bowman and Rod McSwain (injured much of '86) offer good depth.

Special teams

PK Tony Franklin couldn't have done much better, leading the NFL with 140 points and connecting on 32-of-41 field goals to earn a trip to the Pro Bowl. Although he uncustomarily had three punts blocked, P Rich Camarillo (42.1-yard average) was once again one of the NFL's class punting acts. Fryar, returning punts, and Starring, returning kickoffs, remain TD threats every time they touch the ball. Tatupu, who made it to the Pro Bowl as a specialist, is at the top of the class when it comes to return coverage.

New York Jets

The New York Jets appeared to be writing the perfect Super Bowl script through the first 11 games in '86, playing flawless offensive football and catching every break in the book while compiling a nine-game winning streak and a 10-1 record despite a steady flow of injuries to key personnel.

But the roof suddenly caved in as the injuries, especially on defense, continued and the Jets lost their last five games before backing into the playoffs.

After temporarily regrouping with a decisive victory over Kansas City in the AFC wild-card contest when backup QB Pat Ryan replaced slump-ridden Ken O'Brien (14 interceptions and just 2 TD's in last 6 games leading up to playoff semifinal), the Jets rolled over and died in Cleveland, blowing a commanding lead late in the fourth quarter before succumbing in double overtime, 23-20.

With NT Joe Klecko and LB Lance Mehl unlikely to be fully recovered from serious knee injuries until mid-season, if at all, in addition to the uncertainty clouding the futures of DE's Mark Gastineau and Marty Lyons and ORT Reggie McElroy, the Jets face a long, hard road back to playoff contention this season, with major renovation needed for a once-proud defense that ranked 27th in QB sack percentage and dead last against the pass.

Quarterbacks

After picking up where he left off in '85, when he was the league's top-rated passer, O'Brien really fell apart the final six games of '86, as an overwhelming mixture of indecision and misdirected passes forced head coach Joe Walton to turn to Ryan. A pinky injury on his throwing hand late in the season contributed to O'Brien's decline, but numerous observers felt he simply pressed too hard down the stretch in an effort to please Walton. Ryan, a smart, tough customer who seldom rattles, is one of the league's best backups.

Running backs

When Freeman McNeil is healthy (he missed a month in '86 with an elbow injury and still gained 1,266 total yards), the Jets are in good shape at the RB spot, with all-purpose threat Johnny Hector (907 total yards, eight TD's) filling in superbly in McNeil's absence. But the Jet backfield needs to improve its overall blocking, and while Tony Paige is a hard-working battering ram who specializes in short-yardage situations, the Jets need more speed and versatility at FB, which they hope will come from No. 1 pick Roger Vick. Marion Barber helps out at both positions.

Receivers

A major strength. Starting wideouts



Jet RB Freeman McNeil

Al Toon (a Pro Bowler in only his second season) and Wesley Walker each gained over 1,000 yards and combined for 20 TD's. They should be one of the league's top combos again this season, although Walker is getting older (32). TE Mickey Shuler (Jets' second-leading pass catcher in '86 with 69 receptions) also made the Pro Bowl and often combines with Rocky Klever and Billy Griggs in an effective three-TE alignment. Kurt Sohn, JoJo Townsell and Michael Harper are terrific backups who could start for a lot of other teams.

Offensive line

Considering it was juggled from week to week due to injuries, coach Dan Radakovich's unit did a commendable job. C Joe Fields was slowed by injuries in '86, but is still the anchor despite advancing age (34). In addition to Fields and McElroy, left-side starters OT Jim Sweeney (shoulder) and OG Ted Banker (knee) and '86 No. 1 Mike Haight (knee) also are on the brittle side. Pro Bowl alternate RG Dan Alexander was the leader in Fields' absence, while Guy Bingham did a solid job replacing both Fields and Banker.

Defensive Line

Despite serious injuries to Klecko, Gastineau and Lyons, the Jets were still tough against the run (ranked 6th in NFL), but the once-formidable "Sack Exchange" really has deteriorated. Klecko, the difference between a good line and an excellent line; Gastineau, whose knee sockets have been short-circuited by too many sack dances; and Lyons, who was outstanding despite his shoulder problems; remain the key to a line in which all the starters will be 30 or older. While his cohorts crumbled around him, DRE Barry Bennett was this unit's steadiest performer in '86. Tom Baldwin and

Derland Moore are key backups.

Linebackers

In Mehl's absence, Bob Crable, enjoying his first injury-free season, toiled at three different positions and played well, as did ILB Kyle Clifton, who called signals in Mehl's absence and led the team in tackles for the second straight year. Rusty Gulibeau, who, like Crable, returned from major knee surgery, displayed flashes of his old form late in the season, while youngsters Matt Monger, Troy Benson and Kevin McArthur all responded adequately when pressed into service. But uncertainty due to injuries, particularly in Mehl's case, created crucial needs here, which will hopefully be filled by No. 2 pick Alex Gordon and No. 3 Onzy Elam.

Defensive backs

Despite its lowly '86 ranking, Walton feels RC Russell Carter, former USFLer LC Jerry Holmes, FS Harry Hamilton and SS Lester Lyles make up a decent starting unit, provided it receives some badly-needed assistance up front. Converted WR Bobby Humphrey, Carl Howard and injury-prone Rich Miano and Kerry Glenn (a starter at the beginning of '86) are the backups.

Special teams

Vets Pat Leahy, who fell just one FG short of Mark Moseley's league mark for consecutive three-pointers, and Dave Jennings, who bounced back from foot surgery to boot a team-record 85 punts, including 27 inside the 20 (best in the AFC), were solid, but their age (36 and 35, respectively) can't be overlooked. Humphrey, Townsell and the sure-handed Sohn are top-notch returners, and the coverage; featuring Barber, Paige and '86 rookie Nuu Faaola among others; is solid, although improvement is needed on kickoff returns.

Miami Dolphins

The Dolphins' 1986 campaign was a major disappointment for head coach Don Shula & Co., as significant weaknesses in their defense and running game were the biggest factors behind a mediocre 8-8 finish.

Miami's considerable problems on defense were best illustrated in the third game of the season, a 45-39 overtime loss to the New York Jets despite six Dan Marino TD passes, that was made even more painful when the unit's star player, ROLB Hugh Green, suffered a potential career-ending knee injury.

The Dolphins proceeded to lose three of their next four games, and, despite managing to win six of their last nine games in great part due to another brilliant season from Marino, they finished out of the playoffs for the first time since 1980.

In an effort to improve a defensive unit that finished 26th or worse in seven major categories (on four occasions, the Dolphins scored at least 27 points and still lost), Shula has hired Tom Olivadotti, the Cleveland Browns secondary coach who was the defensive coordinator on the University of Miami's 1983 national championship squad, as a replacement for defensive coordinator Chuck Studley, who will remain as the team's linebacker coach in place of the retired Bob Matheson. Shula intends for Olivadotti, who at 41 is considered one of the NFL's up-and-comers in the coaching ranks, to concentrate on revamping Miami's leaky pass defense, with Studley remaining primarily responsible for improving the team's defense against the run.

A dominating big-play defender via the draft to complement rookie sensation ILB John Offerdahl and a complete recovery for Green, as well as two other Miami starters who finished the season on injured reserve (OLT Jon Giesler and LCB Paul Lankford), are also considered keys heading into the Dolphins' inaugural season in the newly constructed, \$100 million Joe Robbie Stadium.

Quarterbacks

Marino more than justified his new six-year, \$9 million contract with another record-breaking campaign, setting NFL marks in completions (378) and pass attempts (623) to go with 4,746 total yards and 44 TD's, both second-best efforts (to himself) in the league record book. Savvy vet Don Strock and versatile Jim Jensen provide solid depth.

Running Backs

In his sophomore season, Lorenzo Hampton emerged as one of the best all-purpose backs in the NFL, becoming the first Dolphin running back in 41 games to hit the 100-yard plateau

on the road to accumulating 1,458 total yards rushing, receiving and returning kickoffs. But Miami's strictly one-dimensional ground attack (only New England averaged less than the Dolphins' paltry 96.6 rushing yards per game) was underscored by the fact Hampton scored all nine of the team's TD's on the ground. Starting FB Woody Bennett is a reliable, hard-working performer, as well as the team's best blocker, but he's getting a little long in the tooth. The same goes for HB Tony Nathan, who is still capable of making the big play both on the ground and through the air. Sophomore FB Ron Davenport was a huge, fumble-prone disappointment with a penchant for blowing blitz assignments following a productive rookie campaign.

Receivers

No problem here, thanks mostly to starting wideouts Mark Duper and Mark Clayton, only the 20th tandem in NFL annals featuring two 1,000 yard receivers in one season, and steady Bruce Hardy, who had the most productive season ever by a Dolphin tight end (54 catches, 430 yards, 5 TD's). Vet WR Nat Moore remains one of the league's top clutch pass catchers, while rookie James Pruitt showed real promise. This year's second-round draft choice, Scott Schwedes of Syracuse, may provide added depth. Backup TE's are Dan Johnson, who figures to share more of the load with Hardy this year, and Joe Rose, on injured reserve all of last season.

Offensive Line

Shifting personnel due to injuries was partially responsible for Miami's feeble ground attack, but, all things considered, OL coach John Sandusky's unit, featuring All-Pro Dwight Stephenson in the pivot and Roy Foster at left guard, again worked wonders, yielding only 17 sacks (plus-16 sack ratio). Miami's starters on the right side, however, OG Ronnie Lee and former Green Bay OT Greg Koch, are adequate at best, while Jeff Dellenbach and Tom Toth could see plenty of action if Giesler can't shake injuries. Larry Lee was a decent C-OG swing man in '86, and Steve Clark could be a factor if he can come back from a severe knee injury.

Defensive Line

A combination of inexperience and advancing age resulted in Miami's weakest link, but the club is hoping this year's No. 1 draft choice, John Bosa of Boston College, will supply a much-needed pass-rushing threat. Rookie T.J. Turner and soph George Little gave their all as the Dolphins' starting ends, but they have a long, long way to go. With Bosa on the scene, Turner might move to nose tackle as a re-

placement for injury-plagued former All-Pro Bob Baumhower. Doug Betters, who reported late and made only 14 tackles last year, and late-season addition Brian Sochia are the backup ends. Mike Charles seems to have found permanent lodging in Shula's doghouse.

Linebackers

There's no doubt Green is the key. Offerdahl was the only bright spot for the Dolphin defense, calling signals expertly despite his rookie status and leading the team in tackles by a wide margin. Miami is hoping its No. 2 pick this year, Rick Graf of Wisconsin, is a clone of Offerdahl. Newcomer Larry Kolic, listed on the preseason depth chart as the starting LILB after playing well late last year following a season-long injury, provided an unexpected lift, but, after that, this unit isn't much. Starting LOLB Bob Brudzinski is another member of the Dolphins' formerly respectable "Killer Bee" unit who appears to have lost most of his sting. Mark Brown, moved to the outside as Green's replacement in '86, is in the same category as Turner and Little. Former No. 1 Jackie Shipp continued to disappoint and was replaced by Kolic. Midseason pickup David Frye was reliable as the weakside backer in Miami's base defense and the coverage man on long-yardage plays, while Robin Sendlein failed to contribute due to injury after being acquired from Minnesota.

Defensive Backs

The Dolphin secondary specialized in giving up cheap touchdowns, while only three other teams in the NFL had as few interceptions. Injuries were a big reason behind this unit's shortcomings, as Lankford, starting SS Glenn Blackwood, starting FS Bud Brown, and CB's Don McNeal and Mike Smith were all hurt at one time or another. Starting RCB William Judson was inconsistent and could be replaced by a healthy Smith, while rookie Reyna Thompson came out of nowhere to replace the injured Lankford the final four games of the season and display legitimate potential.

Special Teams

Another big problem area in '86. PK Fuad Reveiz was bothered by injuries and regressed after an excellent rookie season. P Reggie Roby, despite the strongest leg in the league, had lots of trouble with his placement and hang time. Miami's return specialists turned the ball over way too much, especially the first half of the season, but '87 fourth-round draft choice Troy Stradford may remedy the Dolphins' kick-returning problems. The punt and kickoff coverage was also below average.

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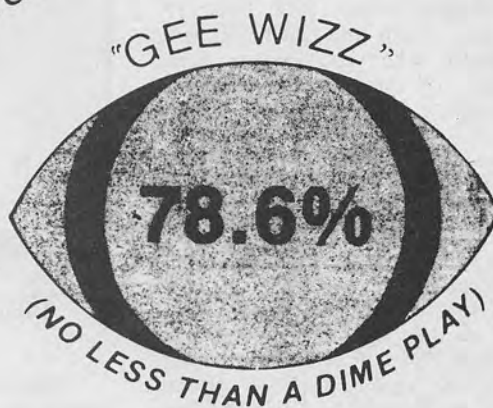
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Indianapolis Colts

The patience of more than 55,000 season-ticket holders was severely tested through the first 13 games of the '86 season, as Indianapolis failed to win a game and was just one loss away from setting an NFL mark for most consecutive defeats at the start of a season.

But their patience was rewarded when volatile owner Bob Irsay replaced head coach Rod Dowhower with Ron Meyer, who proceeded to guide the Colts to three straight victories and provide a glimmer of hope for the future.

In the first quarter of the '86 campaign, four Indy starters suffered serious injuries — QB Gary Hogeboom (shoulder), FS Anthony Young (neck), LB Barry Krauss (knee) and SS Tommy Sims (knee).

With rookie Jack Trudeau forced into the starting QB role after Hogeboom went down in Miami the second game of the season, the Colt offense stumbled badly (only St. Louis had fewer points per game), while the defense provided enticing target practice for the numerous bomb squads on the Colt schedule (with both starting safeties having been lost one game into the season, the Colts ranked 26th in opposing passing yardage per game).

FB Randy McMillan's broken leg suffered in an offseason traffic mishap certainly doesn't help an already shaky ground game, but, considering the strong finish fueled by Hogeboom's return, the first-round addition of Lombardi Trophy-winning LB Cornelius Bennett and the easiest schedule in the league, the Colts' fortunes should improve more than a little.

Quarterbacks

Hogeboom, obtained in a trade with Dallas prior to the '86 campaign, still has his critics, but he was outstanding the final three games in '86, engineering come-from-behind wins on each occasion and completing more than 60 percent of his passes. After a slow start, Trudeau showed gradual improvement, posting six 200-yard passing games. Former Notre Damer Blair Kiel completes the QB picture.

Running Backs

After leading the AFC in rushing in '85, this unit went dramatically downhill (26th in rushing yards per game), and the loss for the season of McMillan, envisioned by Meyer as the feature back in a one-RB attack, obviously doesn't help matters. Albert Bentley, out four games with a leg injury in '86, finished with a flourish (162 yards on 25 carries vs. the Raiders in the season finale), while an ankle injury to George Wonsley limited him to just six starts. The Colt backs did a good job receiving, but their blocking was subpar.



Duane Bickett is one of four Colt linebackers who were No. 1 draft choices

Receivers

The wideouts were a pleasant surprise, as rookie Bill Brooks and vet Matt Bouza combined for 1,961 yards on 136 catches and accounted for 41.7 percent of the team's total net yardage. Brooks was a revelation, compiling the third-highest receiving yardage total ever by a first-year player. The Colt tight ends, led by Pat Beach, weren't nearly as productive, but in the final three wins they were key factors operating out of multiple sets, a Meyer trademark. Walter Murray, obtained in a trade with Washington for Indy's '87 No. 2 pick, was a disappointment after a leg injury limited his playing time.

Offensive Line

With Pro Bowlers Chris Hinton (switched to left guard from left tackle under Meyer) and C Ray Donaldson, along with former No. 1 ORG Ron Solt (expected to play better without the injured right wrist that hampered him most of '86), the Colts could have an awesome middle. But at the tackle spots, Kevin Call and veteran Karl Baldschwiler can be expected to be pushed to the brink by rookies Chris Gambol and Randy Dixon. Ben Utt, the starting left guard in '86 until he went on injured reserve with a bad knee, and Roger Caron offer good depth.

Defensive Line

If former first-rounders Donnell Thompson and Jon Hand play up to their abilities and, as expected, receive a pass-rushing boost from Bennett, this unit could really improve (Colts' 24 sacks were league's second-lowest total in '86). Scott Kellar and Willie Broughton (out with a neck injury the second half of '86) will likely share time at nose tackle, while former Eagle Harvey Armstrong, the team leader in fumble recoveries while be-

ing used at all three positions, is the leading reserve.

Linebackers

Add Bennett to a group that already included three former No. 1's (Duane Bickett, Johnnie Cooks and Barry Krauss) plus steady Cliff Odom, the team's leading tackler the last two seasons, and you've got a group that has the potential to rank right up there with the Giants and Bears. Krauss' knee had to be reconstructed during the offseason, however, which means Dave Ahrens (team leader in forced fumbles), LaMonte Hunley (foot injury most of '86) and Orlando Lowry figure heavily in Meyer's plans.

Defensive Backs

A top priority for Meyer, since no player started every game at the same position last season. The same quartet that started vs. the Raiders in the final game of '86 — RCB Eugene Daniel, LCB John Holt, vet FS Nesby Glasgow and SS Leonard Coleman (converted from left corner) — is the No. 1 DB contingent heading into camp, with 1986 free-agent acquisitions Dwight Hicks and Dextor Clinkscales and Kirk Springs, obtained from the Jets in the spring, ticketed as the key reserves.

Special Teams

Put simply, Stark is the best punter in the NFL, and maybe in league history, considering his steady improvement with punts inside the 20 to go with the highest career punting average ever for the second straight year. Although Dean Biasucci made his final four attempts in '86, the Colts must improve their placekicking (27th in field-goal percentage). The same goes for returns (Springs will probably remove the burden from Brooks and Bentley) and coverage, especially on punts (24th in punt-return differential).

Buffalo Bills

Based on the fact an average of almost 30,000 more fans from the previous season attended each of the Bill home games in '86 (three of the last four drew over 72,000), it certainly appears QB Jim Kelly's \$1.6 million-per-year pact was money well-spent.

On the field, however, the Bills still have a long way to go, as attested by a 4-12 log last season that led to their fourth head-coaching change since 1982, when Chuck Knox departed for Seattle.

Former Kansas Chief head coach Marv Levy, who guided Buffalo to a 2-5 mark after replacing Hank Bullough nine games into the '86 campaign, has revamped the coaching staff, maintaining only three assistants from the previous regime and hiring such well-known people as former Colt head coach Ted Marchibroda (passing-game coordinator), former Southern Cal head coach Ted Tollner (receivers) and ex-Chief assistant Walt Corey (defensive coordinator-linebackers) among others.

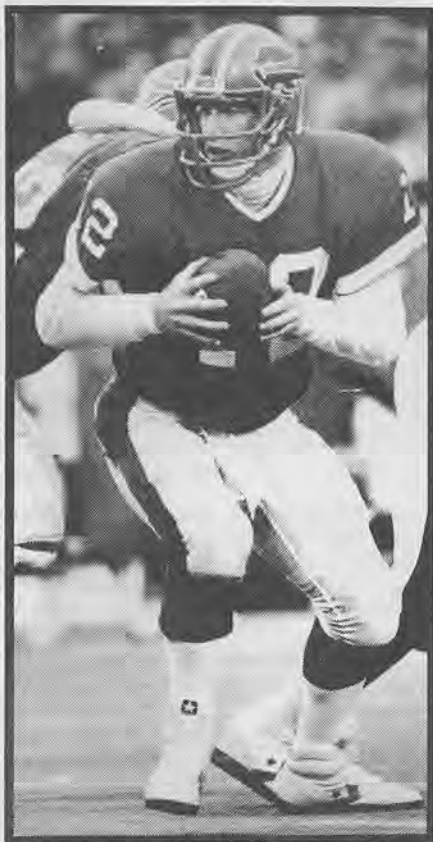
The Bills were competitive most of the time in '86, losing seven games by six points or less, but in order to become a legitimate contender, Levy and his staff must dramatically improve the team's takeaway ability (only 10 interceptions, 8 fumble recoveries, last in the league in turnover edge) and defensive speed, particularly in the secondary and at linebacker, areas that were hopefully improved by the draft selections of No. 1 Shane Conlan, a big-play specialist at Penn State and a lifelong Bill fan, and No. 2 DB's Nate Odomes and Roland Mitchell.

Quarterbacks

Although ill-conceived, late-game interceptions over the middle were critical factors in three defeats the first-half of the season, and the Bills ranked a lowly 26th in third-down efficiency (which many feel was due to Bullough's questionable field judgment), Kelly definitely appears destined for the superstar status he earned in the USFL. The second half of '86 he settled down to throw 13 TD's, compared to only five interceptions, and finished his first NFL season completing just under 60 percent of his passes for 3,593 yards and a respectable 83.3 QB rating. Backup Frank Reich, who never started and only appeared in four games, has potential.

Running Backs

Questionable (ranked 21st in rushing yards per game in '86), as a stream of injuries created season-long instability. The most productive performer was overachiever Robb Riddick, a surprising all-purpose threat (632 yards



Jim Kelly

rushing, 468 yards receiving) who outplayed Greg Bell, plagued by a groin injury much of '86, and disappointing No. 1 pick Ronnie Harmon. At fullback, Levy likes soph Carl Byrum, who ran and blocked well in a brief starting stint the second half of '86 that was curtailed by a knee injury.

Receivers

Not bad, especially at the wideouts, where sophs Andre Reed (team-leading 53 catches, 7 TD's) and Chris Burkett (team-leading 778 reception yards, 22.9-yard average despite a dislocated elbow that kept him out of two games) displayed exciting big-play ability. If former home-run threat Jerry Butler can bounce back from a broken leg which ended his '86 season after 12 games, Kelly could end up captaining a super-destructive bomb squad. At tight end, Pete Metzelaars improved considerably, but the Bills could use some more speed and depth at this position.

Offensive Line

A steadily improving unit in which four of the five positions were manned by the same players all season: C Kent Hull, a USFLer signed around the same time as Kelly who made an equally meaningful contribution; ORT Joe Devlin, who put on 20 pounds in the offseason and provided leadership to go with solid pass-rushing ability;

No. 1 pick ORG Will Wolford, who played well despite reporting late to camp; and OLG Jim Ritcher, like Devlin a quietly dependable vet. The left tackle spot, though, which happens to be Kelly's blindside, was a revolving door featuring Ken Jones, who started the first half of the season until a knee injury knocked him out, Tim Vogler and Justin Cross.

Defensive Line

Stable trio of former No. 1 DRE Bruce Smith, vet NT Fred Smerlas and DLE Sean McNanie was very good against the run (9th in the NFL), but with Smith making as many sacks as the next five Bills combined (15), more pass-rushing help is needed (24th QB sack percentage). In reserve are DE's Mike Hamby and Dean Prater, and veteran NT Don Smith.

Linebackers

At the inside slots, this unit isn't bad at all, with leading '86 tackler Eugene Marve and vet Jim Haslett, out for the '86 season after breaking a leg in the final preseason. Haslett will be pushed by USFLer Ray Bentley, who did a fine job as his replacement, especially in run situations. Outside, though, the Bills had problems, mainly due to a back injury that limited Lucius Sanford to 10 games. Conlan, who showed off his big-play ability in the Fiesta Bowl, and third-year man Hal Garner will definitely push Sanford and Darryl Talley, who had some trouble tackling in '86, for starting bids.

Defensive Backs

Major overhaul is needed here (ranked 27th), with newcomers Odomes and Mitchell expected to be given every opportunity to break into a secondary that tentatively is expected to start RCB Charles Romes, former No. 1 LCB Derrick Burroughs, FS Ron Pitts (replacing Steve Freeman, traded to Minnesota) and either Martin Bayless or Dwight Drane at strong safety. Taking into account Burroughs' fragility, left corner is particularly vulnerable. Rod Bellinger is a key reserve.

Special Teams

This unit could be better, and it will be under Levy, who has always emphasized special-team play as a head coach. PK Scott Norwood and P John Kidd weren't as good as they were in '85, but still dependable enough. Pitts was the third-ranked punt returner in the AFC (10.8 average), while Walter Broughton (22.1-yard average before a leg injury sidelined him the second half of '86), former Oiler Steve Tasker and possibly Harmon are expected to handle kick-offs. Bentley, Prater and Tony Furjanic (team-leading 13 special-team tackles) are the keys on coverage.

Cleveland Browns

Cleveland thrived on close calls and dramatic, last-gasp finishes on the way to winning the AFC Central Division title for the second straight year in 1986 and compiling the winningest season in team history.

But, after winning eight of their 13 victories by six points or less, including a double-overtime, playoff semifinal marathon over the Jets that required 10 points in a two-minute span at the end of regulation, the NFL's consummate closers were outdone by John Elway and the Denver Broncos in the AFC championship game, allowing a nightmarish 98-yard TD drive in the waning moments of the fourth quarter that set the stage for a 23-20 Bronco victory in overtime.

For much of the '86 season, perhaps due to a cakewalk schedule and a cast of quietly efficient characters featuring only two performers that attracted the kind of heavyweight media attention usually reserved for solid playoff contenders (QB Bernie Kosar and, early in the season, KR Gerald "Ice Cube" McNeil), the Browns went virtually unnoticed while putting together the AFC's best regular-season record.

Quarterbacks

After sticking primarily with the short stuff under orders from new offensive coordinator Lindy Infante early in the season, Kosar gradually developed into one of the league's most efficient deep throwers, spreading the passing attack out in masterful fashion on the way to becoming the NFL's seventh-ranked QB with the league's lowest interception percentage and four 400-yard passing performances, including the playoff game with the Jets. Ex-Lion Gary Danielson, returning from a season-long ankle injury, and ex-Colt Mike Pagel, are Kosar's experienced but seldom-used backups.

Running Backs

One year after each of them gained over 1,000 yards, backfield starters Kevin Mack and Earnest Byner struggled through an injury-marred campaign in which they were able to play together only eight quarters all season while the Browns dropped to 22nd in rushing. With Mack hurting his shoulder early and Byner going down with a bum knee just before the '86 midpoint, former Colt Curtis Dickey saw lots of action and had his moments, including a big effort against Minnesota. Herman Fontenot also operates out of the backfield, but mostly as a highly efficient pass catcher.

Receivers

Often using a four-receiver offense, and sometimes even a five-wideout alignment, Kosar's favorite targets among what seemed at times like a cast of thousands in '86 were non-starters Fontenot and sure-handed Bri-



Bernie Kosar unloads in face of Jets' pass rush

an Brennan, who emerged as one of the league's top possession receivers (team-leading 55 catches, 838 reception yards, 6 TD's). The starters are Webster Slaughter and dangerous deep-threat Reggie Langhorne. At tight end, Pro Bowl alternate Ozzie Newsome is an inspirational team leader who refused to sit in '86 despite season-long ankle-shoulder ailments. Behind him, though, the Browns could do better than Travis Tucker and Harry Holt.

Offensive Line

A solid crew of overachievers featuring Pro Bowl ORT Cody Risien, who had surgery on both elbows this offseason; ORG Dan Fike, a Jet reject who made steady progress in '86; colorful C Mike Baab, whose idol is "Conan the Barbarian," OLT Rickey Bolden, who missed nine games in '86 with a broken arm and has overcome a penchant for holding to become the team's top lineman in the opinion of many; and OLG Paul Farren, who did a good job replacing Bolden outside. Larry Williams and George Lilja are reliable backups.

Defensive Line

An OK group, but, as has been the case seemingly forever, the Browns could use a dominant pass rusher (21st in QB sack percentage). The starters in the three-man line — DLE Reggie Camp, Pro Bowl NT Bob Golic and team sack leader DRE Carl Hairston (9) — are all decent against the run. In an effort to generate more pressure last year, head coach Marty Schottenheimer turned more frequently to a four-man alignment, with vastly improved Sam Clancy and Dave Puozuoli replacing Golic.

Linebackers

A significant change here, as No. 1 pick Mike Junkin replaces Pro Bowler Chip Banks on the left outside flank. Banks, the team's highest-paid defensive player (\$700,000), had become an expensive headache for Schottenheimer. Other starters in a crew that

struggled somewhat due to injuries in '86 are ROLB Clay Matthews, a Pro Bowl runner-up who tore a groin muscle in the '86 preseason but didn't leave the lineup; LILB Eddie Johnson, who was slowed by bruised ribs but still managed to make 117 tackles; and RILB Anthony Griggs, an ex-Eagle who beat out Tom Cousineau. Strong competition inside is expected to come from USFL standout Mike Johnson.

Defensive Backs

A unit that excels on "man" coverage, especially CB's Hanford Dixon and Frank Minnifield, but is a tad shaky when it comes to run support. Dixon had an outstanding '86 season, making the Pro Bowl after seldom getting beaten and allowing just 2 TD's all year. Minnifield, who's prone to hamstring pulls, was a Pro Bowl alternate. FS Chris Rockins is a gifted athlete who did a good job replacing the late Don Rogers, while former Eagles Al Gross (on injured reserve with a knee injury most of '86) and Ray Ellis patrol the strongside. Former USFLer Mark Harper and big-play specialist Felix Wright are the key backups at cornerback and safety, respectively.

Special Teams

One of the best in the NFL, directly responsible for securing four three-point wins and setting up or scoring 62 of the Browns' 391 points last season. PK Matt Bahr must bounce back from a knee injury that knocked him out of the final six games in '86. If he can't cut it, the PK chores will likely be handled by rookie Jeff Jaeger. P Jeff Gossett (9th net, 26 kicks inside the 20 in '86) is solid. After McNeil scored TD's on an 84-yard punt return and a 100-yard kickoff return on subsequent weeks early in the season, teams were careful to kick away from the explosive 142-pounder. Mike Johnson, Tucker, Wright, Harper, Scott Nicolas and D.D. Hoggard are all valuable contributors on coverage.

Cincinnati Bengals

For sheer excitement last season, the high-powered Bengals were perhaps the league's flashiest attraction, both on the field, where the league's top-rated offense highlighted a 10-6 season (only the fifth 10-win Cincy season in 19 years), and off of it, where testy head coach Sam Wyche conducted season-long skirmishes with officials and media types who claimed his gimmick-laden offense was often-times too fancy for its own good.

The Bengals' offensive '86 numbers, racked up by such heavyweights as QB Boomer Esiason (club-high 3,959 passing yards), multiple-threat RB James Brooks (club-record 1,773 total yards) and WR Cris Collinsworth (62-for-1,024, team-leading 10 TD's), certainly provided Wyche with ammo for his critics, but the fact remained that this offense was capable of self-destructing at the most inopportune times, like against Cleveland at home the 15th week of the season when a 34-3 embarrassment cost Cincinnati the AFC Central Division crown and a trip to the playoffs.

As was the case in '86, the Cincy schedule isn't that taxing, but if a playoff bid in '87 does indeed beckon, the keys will be considerable improvement in newly hired assistant coach Mike Stock's special teams, and a much-needed dose of vitality for an aging defensive line, perhaps in the form of the Bengals' first-round pick, Outland Trophy winner Jason Buck.

Quarterbacks

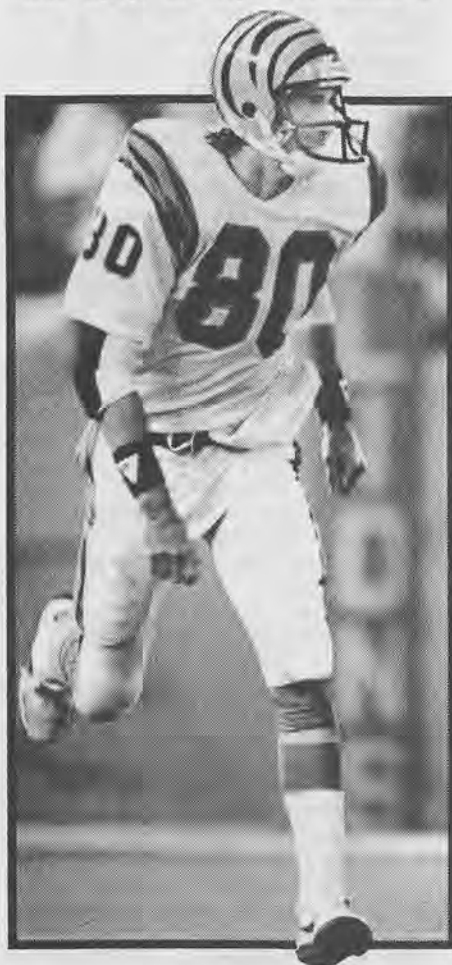
Esiason, the fourth-rated QB in the AFC in '86 (89.2 rating), has a strong arm and plenty of charisma, but he still has a tendency to fall into ruts, as was the case in Houston the 10th week of '86, when he staged a temper tantrum after being yanked by Wyche, and against Cleveland the next-to-last game. Veteran Ken Anderson is probably good for at least one more season of backup duty, while young Doug Gannoy has potential but remains a clipboard carrier unless there's an injury-induced emergency.

Running Backs

Blessed with explosiveness and versatility, Brooks, coming off an absolutely brilliant year, is the unit's biggest weapon. Massive Larry Kinnebrew, hampered by an ankle injury last year, gets the starting FB job, but both Stanley Wilson, who looked good after returning from a one-year suspension due to substance abuse, and former USFLer Bill Johnson, whose NFL progress has been slowed by injuries, averaged over 5 yards per carry in '86 at the same position and are ready and able at a moment's notice. Stanford Jennings is a valuable reserve who can play both backfield positions and catch the ball.

Receivers

Quite a crew that promises to even be more explosive if it can fulfill its goal of getting the ball into former first-rounder Eddie Brown's hands 20 percent more than in '86, when he caught 58 passes for 964 yards but only 4 TD's. Together with the indispensable Collinsworth and '86 No. 1 Tim McGee, another bonafide home-run threat, the sky's the limit at wide-out. At tight end, Rodney Holman (40-for-570), who underwent offseason knee injury, and soph Eric Kattus, a



Cris Collinsworth

bigger target who can block, are a solid duo. Injury-prone Steve Kreider and Mike Martin and first-year free agent Ira Hillary are also on hand.

Offensive Line

A huge, superbly coached unit with interchangeable parts. Pro Bowlers OLT Anthony Munoz and ORG Max Montoya; C Dave Rimington, who had elbow surgery this offseason and is a bit questionable as a result; OLG Bruce Kozerski; and either former No. 1 Brian Blados or versatile Joe Walter at right tackle are the starters on a line that opened huge holes for the NFL's

No. 2 running game and offered solid protection for Esiason in '86 (only 28 sacks yielded, 7th in QB sack percentage). Bruce Reimers and soph Dave Dawson are good reserves.

Defensive Line

Look for Buck to push Eddie Edwards and Ross Browner (both 32) to the brink at the end spots, with Tim Krumrie, the team's total tackle leader in '86 despite his removal on passing downs, to remain an underrated anchor on the nose. Soph Jim Skow, a strong, mobile surprise as a pass rusher, will also see lots of action.

Linebackers

A decent enough group with limited marquee appeal, but that could change if RILB Joe Kelly, a No. 1 pick last year whose progress was slowed considerably due to a long contract hold-out, continues to develop. Vet Reggie Williams and third-year man Emanuel King (team-leading 9 sacks) are solid on the outside, with Carl Zander (who needs to keep his weight down) and Leo Barker filling out the inside picture along with Kelly. Reliable vet Ron Simpkins is a key reserve.

Defensive Backs

Decent 10th-place '86 ranking in total passing defense belies problems here that might have been remedied by the addition of high-round draft picks Eric Thomas and Leonard Bell. In his first season, Lewis Billups immediately established himself as one of the league's top pure cover defenders in '86, but when he was sidelined for a month with a broken hand, the right corner was vulnerable, although replacement Ray Horton tried hard. Louie Breeden is steady at the other corner, while hard-hitting safeties David Fulcher (team-leading seven interceptions) and Robert Jackson, who replaced Bobby Kemp midway through '86, offer good run support (especially Fulcher) but need to improve their overall pass coverage. USFLer Barney Bussey helps out at safety.

Special Teams

A major area of concentration. Bengal kicking teams allowed three costly blocked punts, two blocked field goals and one blocked PAT the first half of the season alone, and the punting game, handled by Jeff Hayes, was the worst in the league. PK Jim Breech was also disappointing in '86 but is capable of bouncing back, while the return from injury of Martin, the league's leading punt returner in '85, bodes well for a return game that also features McGee (23.4-yard kickoff-return average, 4th in NFL last season), Jennings, Brown and, in a pinch, Brooks. At this writing, free agent John Starnes was the leading candidate to replace Hayes, who was quickly cut once the '86 season ended.

Pittsburgh Steelers

The Steelers rebounded from one of their worst starts ever in '86 to win five of their last nine games, thanks mostly to a sturdy ground game. But their six total wins were the fewest in 15 years, and consequently, president Dan Rooney engineered a major front-office shakeup to begin the new year.

Rooney's younger brother, Art Rooney Jr., was removed as the team's personnel director, due to philosophical differences with head coach Chuck Noll, and he was replaced by the combination of Dick Haley and Tom Modrak. Noll, meanwhile, is also now the director of football operations, which means he has become involved with the business end of the franchise for the first time in his 18 years as coach.

Other staff changes followed, including the hiring of former Steeler defensive great Joe Greene as DL coach, but considering that special-team breakdowns were directly responsible for losses to Cleveland, Cincinnati and Kansas City last season, perhaps the biggest move was Noll's decision to make Dennis Fitzgerald and Jon Kolb, another former Steeler player, co-special-team coaches instead of continuing that role himself.

In addition to the need for major special-team improvement, Pittsburgh needs to shore up its secondary, especially on the corners, and its passing game, which was hindered all year by injuries to Louis Lipps and veteran John Stallworth.

Quarterbacks

Very questionable. Noll is happy with Mark Malone as his starter, but other personnel types around the league aren't nearly as impressed. After an awful beginning, the former No. 1 pick improved enough to nudge his completion percentage just over the 50 percent mark. The No. 2 man is sophomore Bubby Brister, who displayed shades of Terry Bradshaw in an impressive prime-time debut replacing Malone (thumb) in a 24-22 loss to Cincinnati. Brister has a bazooka for an arm, but an awful lot to learn.

Running Backs

A strong unit that came into its own four games into the '86 season, following the waiver acquisition of FB Earnest Jackson, who was unceremoniously dumped by Buddy Ryan in Philadelphia. Jackson (910 yards, 4.2 average) and Walter Abercrombie (1,272 total yards, team-leading 47 receptions and 8 TD's), developed into a power-packed duo, but the league's seventh-ranked rushing attack needs more depth to go with Rich Erenberg, who was a reliable situation role player despite nagging injuries. Frank Pollard the team's top rusher in '85,

and David Hughes are question marks due to knee injuries.

Receivers

Lipps and Stallworth were in the lineup together for only nine games in '86, after combining for an AFC-high 134 catches and 17 TD's a year earlier. If they can stay healthy, the Steeler offense should be a load, although Stallworth, at 34, has lost a step. Calvin Sweeney (16-yard average) and lanky Weegie Thompson share the third receiver spot. Preston Gothard's 21 catches were the most by a Steeler tight end since 1983, and he's a good blocker, but he lacks speed, and the Steelers have nothing but unproven commodities behind him.

Offensive Line

A deep, solid unit that allowed the second-fewest sacks in the NFL for the second straight year, despite injuries to starters C Mike Webster (elbow) and OLG Craig Wolfley (knee) for extended periods, as well as No. 1 John Rienstra, who was impressive in Wolfley's place at the start of the season, until he broke a bone in his foot. Steady, dependable ORG Terry Long was the only lineman who didn't miss a start. ORT Tunch Ilkin was fantastic in his 15 starts, allowing just one sack, while his left-side counterpart, 34-year-old Ray Pinney, attempts to repeat his respectable '86 campaign following offseason knee surgery. Dan Turk, who did a good job replacing one of the league's best in Webster, and massive sophomore OT Mark Behning are the key reserves.

Defensive Line

DLE Keith Willis (team-leading 12 sacks, third-best ever by a Steeler), 10-year vet NT Gary Dunn and DRE Edmund Nelson started every game, a welcome change from the crippling injuries that earmarked this unit in '85, while designated pass rusher Keith Gary contributed 6 1/2 sacks. Gerald Williams will probably spell Dunn more in '87, while disappointing '86 first-rounder Darryl Sims is already said to be benefitting from Greene's tutelage.

Linebackers

While Mike Merriweather made the Pro Bowl for the third straight year, Pittsburgh's other starting OLB, Bryan Hinkle, was the star of this capable unit (team-leading 118 tackles, 3 interceptions, 4 1/2 sacks). On the inside, Robin Cole and signal-caller David Little once again more than held their own. Dirt Winston, run-specialist Anthony Henton and versatile Gregg Carr also contribute to a unit that could use a little more depth.

Defensive backs

A big lift is hoped for here from

early-round rookies, especially No. 1 CB Rod Woodson, as well as Dwayne Woodruff, the team's top cover man who missed all of last year after a pre-season knee injury. Rookie free-agent Chris Sheffield was a decent fill-in for Woodruff on the left side, until mid-season injuries took their toll, at which time John Swain switched from the right side and also performed adequately. After impressing as the nickel back, rookie free-agent Lupe Sanchez took over for inconsistent Harvey Clayton on the left corner. Starting safeties are again expected to be 13-year vet Donnie Shell and so-so Eric Williams, with pressure from Rick Woods, Dave Edwards and possibly Sanchez.

Special teams

The final game of the season vs. the Chiefs said it all, as a blocked punt, a kickoff return and a blocked field goal accounted for all of K.C.'s TD's in a 24-19 defeat in which the Steelers dominated statistically. Reliable PK Gary Anderson was frustrated by a lack of scoring opportunities, while P Harry Newsome regressed as the season wore on (26th in net punting average). Woods and Sanchez (league-leading 23.6-yard KR average) were the primary returners at season's end.



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Houston Oilers

The sky appeared to be the limit for the Oilers following an impressive 4-0 preseason in '86, but, after a 31-3 rout on the road in Green Bay to begin the year, reality — in the form of eight straight losses — exposed its ugly face to first-year coach Jerry Glanville.

Besides an uncanny knack for ill-timed turnovers and penalties, the biggest reason behind the Oilers' downfall during that period was Glanville's insistence on sticking with a blue-collar, grind-it-out attack despite the fact his offensive personnel, led by high-priced QB Warren Moon, was much better-suited for a more wide-open, big-play attack.

Finally after nine games, Glanville agreed to change the offensive philosophy, and the Oilers responded by finishing 4-3 the balance of '86, including back-to-back, season-ending wins that probably saved his job.

With the draft additions of FB Alonzo Highsmith and WR Haywood Jeffries to an attack that already features the explosive wideout duo of veteran Drew Hill and super soph Ernest Givins, it appears Glanville will continue to open things up offensively.

The dramatic improvement of the Oiler defense, meanwhile (13th after two straight seasons ranked next-to-last), was overshadowed by the offense's mishandling, particularly a secondary that allowed only four quarterbacks to complete more than 50 percent of their passes.

Quarterbacks

Granted, Moon might have really been stymied by Glanville's conservative offensive approach. But a league-leading 26 interceptions is more than enough fodder for those critics intent on bum-rapping the celebrated Jim Everett deal. There's no doubt Moon, who will be working under new QB coach June Jones, has a strong arm and can operate on the move. If he falters in '87, he'll have no excuses. Oliver Luck is a capable reserve with good work habits. Ex-Lion John Witkowski and No. 3 pick Cody Carlson, a star at Baylor who will probably be a fan favorite, are also available.

Running Backs

RB Mike Rozier (out after the 13th week of '86 season with a knee injury), is an undisputable talent who must play smarter and improve his pass blocking. If he does, a Rozier-Highsmith starting package could improve the league's 25th-ranked rushing attack considerably. Notre Damer Allen Pinkett, fragile but talented Ray Wallace and pass-catching specialist Butch Woolfolk are the other key backfield figures.

Receivers

Moon has to be licking his chops

over the prospect of three-WR alignments featuring Givins, Hill and Jeffries. Both Hill and Givins collected over 1,000 receiving yards, with the latter also emerging as the league's No. 1 end-around threat, with an eye-popping 16.4 average on nine carries. The addition of Jeffries could signal the end for Tim Smith, a surprising non-factor in '86. At tight end, Jamie Williams seems to just blend in with the scenery, but that's been partly due to the Oilers' offensive makeup. Nevertheless, the Oilers could use more help there.



Super soph WR Ernest Givins

Offensive Line

Offsetting the natural talent one would expect from a starting group featuring three No. 1 draft choices is the fact four of this unit's five starters are coming back from '86 injuries — OG Mike Munchak, who missed the final eight '86 games with a knee injury; OT's Bruce Matthews and Dean Steinkuhler, who underwent back and knee surgeries, respectively; and C Jim Romano, out five games with a bum knee. Former All-Pro Kent Hill, who did little to distinguish himself after being obtained in the Everett deal with the Rams, is ticketed to start next to Steinkuhler on the right side, with Eric Moran, Don Maggs and pleasant surprise Jay Pennison key figures in the backup brigade.

Defensive Line

The pass rush generated from this group was so weak (22nd in QB sack percentage) that the only player capable of generating any real pressure on opposing QB's was Jesse Baker, who was cut early in '86 and re-signed out of necessity. DE's Ray Childress and Richard Byrd are steadily improving the more they play, and William Fuller, who also came from the Rams in the Everett deal, should be more of a pass-rushing force this season. Doug Smith, who spent time on injured re-

serve in '86 due to poor conditioning, and Mike Golic are nondescript nose tackles.

Linebackers

After losing its best performer, OLB Frank Bush, with a probable career-ending spinal disorder early in '86, this no-name unit performed adequately enough. But expect LOLB Robert Lyles, a steady overachiever; LILB John Grimsley, a tireless force inside who led the team in tackles (including an amazing 20 vs. San Diego); RILB Robert Abraham and ROLB Johnny Meads, who still has troubles with a

surgical knee, to receive a strong push from '87 draft picks Walter Johnson and Mark Dusbabek.

Defensive Backs

While being mostly responsible for Houston's commendable 9th-place ranking on pass defense, this surprising unit still gave up too many TD's and was charged with too many dumb penalties, while not collecting nearly enough interceptions (league-low 10, tied with St. Louis). CB's Steve Brown and Patrick Allen appear to be rock solid on the heels of an exceptional '86 season, while safeties Keith Bostic and Bo Eason could improve some. Former No. 1 Richard Johnson remains the Oilers' nickel specialist, with Jeff Donaldson also a busy reserve.

Special Teams

PK Tony Zendejas is on the verge of becoming the league's best after connecting on 22 of 27 FG's in '86, including his last nine in a row and 6-of-7 from between the 40- and 50-yard lines. P Lee Johnson finished 8th in the NFL and he booms kickoffs, but he needs to improve his punting in bad weather. Willie Drewrey, Givens and Pinkett give the Oilers good returners for their money, while the Oilers' penalty-prone coverage unit must be more careful in '87.

Denver Broncos

Forget the fact the Denver Broncos had 10 new faces, a shaky ground game and the smallest lineup in the NFL last year.

With John Elway emerging in his fourth season as arguably the NFL's premier signal-caller, none of those things mattered, as the star-kissed Broncos stormed into the Super Bowl on the strength of a miraculous 98-yard march to paydirt in the waning moments of the AFC championship tilt in Cleveland that deserves top billing in the NFL '86 highlight film.

As it turned out, though, the Broncos also manufactured one of the season's most inept sequences — four straight rushing failures near the Giants' goal-line in SB XXI that were instrumental in shifting the tide completely in the New Yorkers' favor after a promising start.

Shoring up a versatile but unexploitive running attack that averaged only 3.7 yards a game in '86 is one of head coach Dan Reeves' top priorities as his troops march into camp to defend their AFC title. It also wouldn't hurt if the Broncos could beef up at a few positions, particularly the nose and outside linebacker, and upgrade a secondary that's starting to show its age.

Quarterbacks

Despite early-season injuries to his receivers and a mediocre front wall, Elway was truly a "franchise" player in '86, and the biggest problem he faces in '87 is potential overuse and exposure to injury due to the rest of the Broncos' offensive shortcomings. Remaining the key to his effectiveness is his elusive scrambling ability that keeps opposing defenses off balance. Gary Kubiak is considered quite an adequate backup, but, without Elway in the lineup, Denver would struggle to break even.

Running Backs

There aren't too many backs that can do as many different things as Sammy Winder, Gerald Willhite and Steve Sewell, the ultimate jack-of-all-trades who played six different offensive roles in the Orange offense before he was relegated to injured reserve with a shoulder injury in mid-November. Winder and Willhite (64 catches) scored 23 of the Broncos' 45 regular-season TD's and together combined for 1,154 rushing yards and 700 receiving yards in an offense based heavily on the art of deception. But it would seem a big bruiser in the backfield could work wonders for Elway. Gene Lang and soph free agent Ken Bell are key backups.

Receivers

With deep threat Vance Johnson's return to the lineup in '86 from knee surgery coinciding with the blossoming of rookies Mark Jackson and TE/H-



Bronco hopes ride on John Elway's arm

back Orson Mobley, a 6-5, 260-pound load with agile moves and soft hands, Elway's supporting cast is getting progressively better. Also on hand are veteran Steve Watson, one of the league's steadiest, sure-handed receivers, disappointing but explosive Clinton Sampson and 1987 No. 1 draft choice Ricky Nattiel at the wideouts and hard-blocking Clarence Kay, successfully recovered from drugs, at tight end.

Offensive Line

Hardly the deepest unit around, the Bronco front wall needs to improve its run blocking considerably in '87. Healthy seasons are needed from ORG Mark Cooper, C Keith Bishop and soph OLT Jim Juriga, who was ticketed for starting duty in '86 until a summer knee injury sent him to the sidelines. Thirteen-year vet OG Paul Howard is almost a cinch to be gone following the severe knee injury that ended his '86 season. Another veteran, Dave Studdard, sticks around to challenge Juriga, while Ken Lanier holds down the starting OLT spot. Bill Bryan mans the pivot along with Bishop, and Mike Freeman and Dan Remsberg provide depth.

Defensive Line

A small, quick group that spearheaded the league's fifth-best unit against the run in '86. The only really dominating defender here is All-Pro Rulon Jones, who managed 13.5 sacks while shifting around at both end spots. Some added strength in the middle, where NT Greg Kragen, Tony Colorito and vet Rubin Carter (out after an early-October knee injury) currently line up, would be useful. DLE Andre Townsend was strong early in '86 but tailed off near the end. USFLer Freddie Gilbert is a useful reserve.

Linebackers

A spunky unit with good athletic

ability, but a lack of size outside which might be remedied by the conversion of speedy 6-5 Simon Fletcher (5.5 sacks in '86) from the line. All-Pro Karl Mecklenburg (9.5 sacks) is the key, switching effectively to as many as seven different positions depending on the situation, while fellow ILB Ricky Hunley continues to improve with experience. Ken Woodard replaces the retired Tom Jackson full-time on the weakside, unless vet Jim Ryan moves there after being aced out by Fletcher, or possibly Bruce Klosternann, an '86 injured-reserve victim whom LB coach Myrel Moore likens to former Bronco Bob Swenson. Darren Comeaux, Rick Dennison and rookies Michael Brooks and Marc Munford round out the picture.

Defensive Backs

LCB Louis Wright and FS Steve Foley are 34 and 33, respectively, and were replaced more frequently by Steve Wilson and Tony Little as the '86 season wore on. SS Dennis Smith, meanwhile, was rather erratic, making the Pro Bowl despite messing up on a few key occasions. RCB Mike Harden (6 interceptions, 4th in the AFC) had his best season ever, starting in front of former Giant Mark Haynes, a major injury-plagued disappointment. Randy Robbins also offers major contributions to a unit that uses all nine defensive backs in a complicated system.

Special Teams

Although he had big problems in the Super Bowl, PK Rich Karlis is solid, kicking 10 straight three-pointers at one point in '86. Mike Horan hopes to be the answer as a punter, a season-long problem area (22nd). Willhite (AFC's second-leading punt returner), Lang and Bell give Denver one of the league's best return units, and Comeaux and Dennison anchor a strong coverage crew.

Seattle Seahawks

The Seahawks were the hottest team in the NFL when the '86 season ended but, despite winning their final five games (the last four in resounding fashion) and beating both Super Bowl participants (the only team to do so), they just missed making the playoffs at 10-6, and had to settle for the distinction of being the best team in the league without a postseason invitation.

In retrospect, head coach Chuck Knox's decision to replace slumping QB Dave Krieg with young free agent Gale Gilbert to start the second half of the season was a second guesser's delight, as the Seahawks proceeded to look awful in losing three straight games in which they were outscored 99-20.

Knox went back to Krieg, who quickly caught on fire, compiling an astounding 138.2 QB rating the final month of the season while directing an offense that scored on 25 of its final 36 possessions.

The Seahawks' biggest strength was a powerful running attack featuring AFC rushing leader Curt Warner, who never looked better one year after serious knee surgery. Whether this team can grab all the gold, though, depends on which Dave Krieg decides to show up when the starting gun goes off.

In addition, more help in the receiving area, a little extra beef up front (in case C Blair Bush can't cut it following knee surgery), another pass rusher to go with Pro Bowler DLE Jacob Green and some fresh blood at the corners certainly wouldn't hurt Seattle's chances.

Quarterbacks

The Hawk brass wasn't sold enough on Krieg despite his tremendous finish to keep from searching extensively for more QB help heading into camp, and don't be surprised if there's an extra performer added on to the signal-calling cast before training begins. Currently backing up Krieg, who finished as the third-ranked QB in the NFL with 10 TD's and just one interception the final month of '86, are Gilbert and Sean Salisbury, an I.R. victim a good part of '86 who looked impressive in the preseason.

Running backs

Starters Warner and all-rookie FB John Williams, an excellent blocker who wracked up 757 yards rushing and receiving, are impressive to say the least. Their backups, though, (Randall Morris, Eric Lane and Bobby Joe Edmonds) spent practically all their time in '86 on special teams, and a little bit more in surance behind Warner wouldn't be a bad idea.

Receivers

Veteran Steve Largent was as good as ever, and comes into the season with a chance to surpass Charlie



Seahawk RB Curt Warner

Joiner as the NFL's all-time leading receiver. Starting on the other side, Daryl Turner wasn't nearly as successful, and ended up sharing time with deep-threat Ray Butler, a Colt castoff. Other WR's are Paul Skansi, a clutch, intermediate-range specialist down the stretch (12 of his last 14 '86 receptions were converted into first downs); Byron Franklin, out with a knee injury the final two games of '86 and Byron Walker. Mike Tice, a good blocker, and sure-handed Gordon Hudson are the tight ends, and a little more production from them in '87 could go a long way.

Offensive line

A lot depends on a full recovery by Bush, who was replaced in the pivot the final nine weeks of '86 by Kani Kauahi for three outings, and then Will Grant the last six after Kauahi appeared overmatched. OLG Edwin Bailey also must shake off knee problems (he was replaced by Jon Borchardt in four '86 games), while OLT Ron Mattes (who played Lawrence Taylor to a standstill), OLT Mike

Wilson, obtained from Cincinnati, and ORG Keith Millard showed steady progress in a unit that was totally revamped from the previous year. Vet OT Ron Essink, on I.R. all of '86, could work his way back into lineup.

Defensive line

One reason for Seattle's mediocre ranking against the pass (23rd) was a faltering pass rush. Green, who really came on the second half of '86, had twice as many sacks (12) as anyone on the team, and No. 1 pick Tony Woods, a Pitt product who might develop into quite a "rover," could make a big difference. Other starters in a decent unit vs. the run (12th) are DRE Jeff Bryant, out four games in '86 with an ankle injury, and NT Joe Nash, who shared time the second half of the season with former Raider Reggie Kinlaw (foot injury with two games remaining). Randy Edwards, who replaced Bryant, is the main backup.

Linebackers

Decent, but hardly spectacular. LILB Fredd Young is the key here, after making the Pro Bowl as a LB instead of a special teamer and leading the team in tackles for the second-straight season. Other starters LOLB Bruce Scholtz, RILB Keith Butler and ROLB Greg Gaines (who pushed Michael Jackson into retiring and John Kaiser and Sam Merriman into reserve roles) will get a big push from Woods and No. 2 pick David Wyman.

Defensive backs

Injury and age factors come into play here in a big way. SS Kenny Easley, perhaps the game's best at his position when healthy, missed the final five games of '86 due to ankle surgery and also has lingering knee problems, while LC Dave Brown, the NFL's oldest starting CB, got burned for scores on more than one occasion. Terry Taylor also had a few shaky moments at the other corner, while Eugene Robinson covered a lot of ground in centerfield. Paul Moyer and rookie Eddie Anderson, a player to watch in '87, did a good job in Easley's absence. Former USFLers Kerry Justin and Gregg Johnson and soph Patrick Hunter complete the picture.

Special teams

Always good under Knox, this unit added an extra touch with the awesome return talents of Edmonds, a Pro Bowler after piling up an astounding 1,183 on kickoff and punt returns. PK Norm Johnson, the second leading PK in the AFC in '86, is solid, but No. 5 pick Ruben Rodriguez could push incumbent P Vince Gamache. Young, Hunter, Morris, Justin, Kaiser and Merriman lead the way on one of the league's best coverage units.

Kansas City Chiefs

Despite a 10-6 record (K.C.'s first winning mark since 1981) and a trip to the playoffs for the first time in 15 years, the Chiefs replaced head coach John Mackovic at season's end with Frank Gansz, who had resigned as the club's special-team coach to pursue higher placement elsewhere just two days prior to Mackovic's dismissal.

The key behind this curious turn of events was an impassioned plea to ownership from the Chief players to retain Gansz, who directed a scintillating specialty unit that paved the way to the playoffs, in favor of Mackovic, whose staff closed out the year embroiled in conflict.

The coaching changes didn't cease with Gansz's promotion, as Homer Smith and John Paul Young, hired as the Chiefs' new offensive and defensive coordinators, respectively, are the key figures in a major staff shakeup.

Smith will attempt to repair a feeble offense featuring a revolving-door situation at the all-important QB position, as well as persistent problems with a running attack that has been among the lowest-ranked in the league (27th last year) ever since the tragic drowning of Joe Delaney.

Young, meanwhile, inherits a fine defense that effectively managed to camouflage the offense's shortcomings with a league-leading 49 takeaways last year, with Gansz passing the special-team baton to Ed Beckman, a former specialty star with the Chiefs whose virgin status in the NFL coaching ranks will be offset by a record-breaking unit that blocked 11 punts and collected six TD's.

Quarterbacks

Gansz expects a three-way battle from Todd Blackledge, Bill Kenney and former USFLer Frank Seurer. Blackledge and Kenney each started eight games in '86 and compiled 5-3 records, but the offense was substantially more productive under Kenney, who had problems with his throwing hand a good part of '86 and threw almost as many interceptions (11) as TD's (13). Blackledge had his moments during the Chiefs' gutty three-game win streak at season's end that propelled them into the playoffs, but he bombed miserably in K.C.'s wild-card loss to the Jets.

Running Backs

It's quite conceivable that the Chiefs' first two '87 draft picks, RB Paul Palmer and FB Christian Okoye, will be the starters, considering that Chief runners gained over 50 yards only four times in '86. Vet Mike Pruitt was the rushing leader, while Jeff Smith, who was saved for third-down plays and return duty, was the most effective among a motley assemblage

that also included Herman Heard, Boyce Green and ex-Oiler Larry Moriaty.

Receivers

If Carlos Carson, out nearly half of '86 with assorted leg problems, and Anthony Hancock, out 12 games with a knee injury, can return healthy, the Chief wideouts could be in decent shape, especially due to Stephone Paige, who had a team-leading 11 TD's among his 52 receptions for 829 yards despite double coverage much of the time. Vet Henry Marshall and Emile Harry also figure in at wideout. At tight end, Gansz would prefer for one player among Walt Arnold, ex-Packer Pro Bowler Paul Coffman and Jonathan Hayes to assume command.

Offensive Line

At times the Chief front wall displayed some real cracks in '86 (22nd in percentage of QB sacks allowed), as three new starters settled into the lineup: C Rick Donnalley, obtained from Washington, and OLT Irv Eatman and ORG Mark Adickes, both former USFLers. OLG Brad Budde, who needs to be more consistent, and ORT David Lutz, who missed seven games at midseason due to a knee injury, also start, with '86 No. 1 Brian Jozwiak, the team's largest player, expected to be much more of a factor. Also pushing for added playing time will be versatile Rich Baldinger and John Alt, who has been saddled with back problems a good share of his career.

Defensive Line

With former first-rounder Mike Bell returning from drug problems, one of the league's strongest DL units should get even stronger. Pro Bowler Bill Maas is a relentless force in the middle, with DE's Art Still, a Pro Bowl alternate coming off one of his best seasons (team-leading 10.5 sacks), and Pete Koch, a steadily improving big-play contributor in Bell's absence, rounding out a solid starting crew. Soph Leonard Griffin, who showed promise after missing the first seven games in '86 due to a training-camp foot injury, is expected to help out more this season.

Linebackers

A steadily improving unit fortified by two '86 newcomers — LILB Dino Hackett, who exhibited Jack Lambert-like range while leading the team in tackles, and free-agent ROLB Tim Coffield, a punishing tackler who sent QB's Jim Kelly, Marc Wilson and Dan Fouts to the sidelines with bone-crushing hits the first half of '86. Vet Gary Spani, recovering from offseason back surgery, will battle Scott Radecic and '86 late-bloomer Aaron Pearson for the inside spot opposite Hackett, with Ken McAlister (knee surgery)

hoping to regain his left outside slot from Louis Cooper. No. 3 pick Todd Howard also figures in the overall LB equation.

Defensive Backs

Awesome. The starting foursome of Pro Bowl safeties Deron Cherry and Lloyd Burruss and CB's Kevin Ross and Albert Lewis couldn't have done any better than it did in '86, spearheading a unit that compiled a conference-high 31 interceptions. On hand to offer superb assistance in the Chiefs' nickel-dime alignments are Mark Robinson, who compiled a career-high 43 tackles despite a thigh bruise that knocked him out of seven



Deron Cherry

games, special-team stud Sherm Crockett and Greg Hill.

Special Teams

Outstanding. In '86, Gansz's group made crucial plays that contributed to all five of K.C.'s first-half wins and single-handedly produced the playoff-clinching victory at Pittsburgh, scoring all the Chiefs' points in a 24-19 decision. PK Nick Lowery is the NFL's best-paid kicker for good reason, while Lewis Colbert has developed into a top-notch directional punter after a slow start. Smith leads a dangerous pack of returners, while Crockett spearheads a fearsome coverage corps.

Los Angeles Raiders

As one would expect, Raider managing general partner Al Davis hasn't wasted any time shaking up his roster following a season in which the Raiders declined dramatically in the second half, losing their last five games to finish 8-8 and become only the third team in the 24-year Davis regime unable to finish above .500.

Davis' acquisitions of CB Lionel Washington from St. Louis and WR James Lofton from Green Bay early this offseason aren't expected to be his last before his troops are forced to begin tangling with the NFL's fifth-toughest schedule, featuring seven '86 playoff teams.

The Raiders' biggest headache heading into camp is an uncertain QB situation, as little-used third-year man Rusty Hilger figures as the No. 1 signal-caller over disappointing Marc Wilson and aging Jim Plunkett, unless Davis pulls off a deal before the season begins.

Other problem areas are an aging offensive line in need of major repair everywhere except the pivot, a questionable running attack made even more uncertain by the likely inability of Navy ensign Napoleon McCallum to play on weekends this season due to tougher military regulations and a

secondary showing cracks on the corners.

In addition to the McCallum development, other off-field happenings (like a possible guilty verdict in a sexual assault case against Lofton and new rumors that Davis will move his team because of growing differences with the L.A. Coliseum) will have an impact on a team that always manages to maintain interest.

Quarterbacks

In the limited action he's seen, the frisky Hilger (8-yard average on 6 carries in '86) has thrown only one interception in 51 attempts, which has to rate him ahead of Wilson, who threw 15 interceptions, compared to 12 TD's in '86 while battling a nagging thumb injury. Plunkett was an impressive relief pitcher in victories over the Chiefs and Seahawks, but his contract is up and he's pushing 40.

Running Backs

The big key will be whether Marcus Allen, the league's leading rusher in '85, can bounce back from the first subpar season of his career. While he was hindered by a badly sprained ankle that knocked him out of three games, Allen also developed a penchant for costly fumbles down the stretch. In Allen's absence, McCallum was a good-

looking double threat power back, but, now that it looks like he might be out of the '87 picture, No. 3 draft pick Steve Smith of Penn State could get a real shot. Others in the picture are vets Frank Hawkins and Kenny King (out with an injury all of '86) and youngsters Vance Mueller and Steve Strachan.

Receivers

Lofton, who could pick up where Cliff Branch left off if allowed to play, and CFL product Mervyn Fernandez are expected to help a young, erratic WR corps, featuring Dokie Williams, Jessie Hester and Rod Barksdale, that runs like the wind but drops too many passes. Tight end, meanwhile, is a pillar of strength, thanks to consistently productive Todd Christensen (the only player ever to catch more than 80 passes for 4 straight seasons) and Trey Junkin, who looked good in the two-TE setup in '86 before hurting his knee.

Offensive Line

Except for Pro Bowl C Don Mosebar, major repair is needed for a front wall that was bombarded by an AFC-worst 64 sacks in '86. The Raiders' top two draft picks, behemoth John Clay (330 and counting) and Bruce Wilkerson, are expected to battle vet OT's

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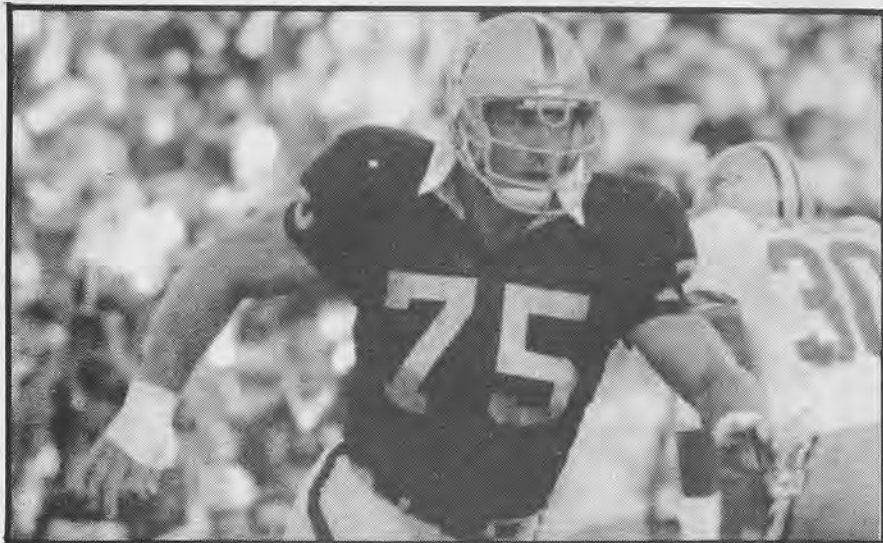
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Howie Long keeps pressure on opposing quarterbacks

Henry Lawrence, Bruce Davis and Shelby Jordan tooth and nail for playing time. Oft-injured Curt Marsh, converted DL Chris Riehm and vets Mickey Marvin and Charlie Hannah are the hardly awe-inspiring front-runners for guard duty.

Defensive Line

Definitely one area Davis doesn't have to worry about. DLE Howie Long, a Pro Bowler despite missing three games with a pulled hamstring; NT Bill Pickel, the AFC sack leader at his position (11.5); and AFC sack leader DRE Sean Jones (15.5) are as

good a trio up front as there is, and hard-hitting pass-rushing specialist Greg Townsend and reserve Mitch Willis are hardly slouches. Opposing QB's could be in for even more grief from this unit if '86 No. 1 Bob Buczkowski can bounce back from the back surgery that kept him under wraps last year.

Linebackers

Rugged and durable. From left to right, former Eagle Jerry Robinson, slimmed-down Matt Millen, quick and active Reggie McKenzie and warhorse Rod Martin started all 16 games in

'86. Proven vets Jeff Barnes and ex-Charger Linden King are capable "situation" subs, with versatile soph Jamie Kimmel also offering respectable reserve duty.

Defensive Backs

Although still worthy of blue-chip billing, CB's Mike Haynes and Lester Hayes, both over 30 and coming off injury-marred campaigns, are increasingly vulnerable, which means Washington, No. 3 pick Brad Cochran and Sam Seale, who displayed eye-opening big-play ability as a starter replacing both Haynes and Hayes, could give them a real run for their money. The safety spot is much more solid, with FS Vann McElroy (3rd in AFC with 7 interceptions), SS Stacey Toran (6 sacks) and vet Mike Davis, out all of '86 after a preseason injury, expected to quite capably hold down the fort.

Special Teams

After a bad year in '85, PK Chris Bahr was excellent in '86, hitting on 75 percent of his field goals and contributing mightily to the league's top kickoff coverage with consistently deep tee shots. Ray Guy, meanwhile, went from being one of the league's most reliable punters to one of the most inconsistent. Veteran Fulton Walker and Stefon Adams lead a strong return unit, along with McCallum, if the Navy lets him play. Junkin's injury-free return will upgrade an already-strong coverage unit. ■



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San Diego Chargers

No team in the NFL underwent a bigger personality transformation than the Chargers. Al Saunders, the young, intense head coach who replaced Don Coryell at the midway point last season, assembled a sack-happy, pressure-packed defense under new coordinator Ron Lynn that significantly overshadowed a conservative, ball-control offense which for years was known for its no-holds-barred explosiveness.

Saunders, who directed S.D. to a 3-5 record the second half of '86, following a disastrous 1-7 first half under Coryell (the Chargers' 4-12 mark was their worst since a 2-12 finish in '75), was signed to a new five-year pact shortly after the season ended by owner Alex Spanos. In conjunction with new director of football operations Steve Ortmyer, formerly an assistant coach with the Los Angeles Raiders, Saunders must reassemble a roster that featured 11 players on I.R. at year's end, including five starters.

His biggest need is to fortify a defense expected to be missing DE Leslie O'Neal, who was outstanding until he blew out a knee late last year, after a collision with teammate Woodrow Lowe that has put his promising career in jeopardy, and, quite possibly, CB Danny Walters, a four-year starter who was sidelined practically the entire '86 season with a ruptured Achilles' tendon.

A major move along those lines was the Draft-Day acquisition of All-Pro OLB Chip Banks from Cleveland, whose intimidating presence will allow vastly improved Billy Ray Smith, the defense's anchor in '86 (11 sacks), to become even more of a pass-rushing threat.

Quarterbacks

Future Hall of Famer Dan Fouts, hampered by concussions that forced him to miss four games, had a tough season, especially the first half, when he threw an uncanny 19 interceptions compared to only 8 TD's. Fouts' stats improved after Saunders shifted the offense's gears, but the 15-year vet is clearly on his last leg. Mark Herrmann, who also had concussion problems that forced him out of three contests, and Tom Flick, who piloted the team in its biggest win of the year (a 9-3 decision over conference champ Denver), did a creditable backup job. Rookie Mark Vlasic could be Fouts' heir-apparent.

Running Backs

Besides Pro Bowler Gary Anderson, whose all-purpose yardage (2,022) was the league's second-best behind Eric Dickerson, this injury-plagued unit had all kinds of problems (27th in average



San Diego RB Lionel James

gain per rush). Soph Curtis Adams, who had a brilliant three-TD outing in a 12th-week OT loss to the Raiders, was the team's second-leading rusher despite missing nine games with a shoulder injury. Lionel James (ankle) and Buford McGee (knee) also spent time on I.R., while Tim Spencer played hurt.

Receivers

With Charlie Joiner retiring to become Saunders' receivers coach, the only experienced wideout is Wes Chandler, who joined Fouts in having a subpar season. Former USFLer Tru-maine Johnson had a few productive games, but Anderson was clearly the team's best pass catcher. At tight end, Kellen Winslow came on slowly to regain the All-Pro form he displayed before a devastating knee injury in '85, while sure-handed Notre Damer Pete Holohan took on an increased role. Eric Sievers (knee surgery) and No. 1 draft pick Rod Bernstine complete the TE picture.

Offensive line

Despite injuries taking their toll at every position, this unit still managed to rank fourth in the NFL, allowing only one sack in every 19.9 pass

attempts. Former No. 1 OLT Jim Lachey was the best player and is close to becoming a perennial Pro Bowler, while OLG Sam Claphan had his best season. Durable OG Dennis McKnight and OT Gary Kowalski started every game on the right side. Vet Don Macek was solid again in the pivot, and was effectively replaced early in the season by Jim Leonard, when he was out with a back injury. Massive OG Jeff Walker showed promise, but fellow rookie Jim Fitzpatrick was an overweight bust who spent most of the year on I.R.

Defensive line

A major strength in '86, but injury factor looms heavily. In addition to O'Neal, who was the AFC's second-leading sacker at the time of his injury, NT's Terry Unrein and Chuck Ehin have shaky knees that forced them to spend time on I.R. in '86. Lee Williams, meanwhile, was a terror on the left side, finishing the season tied for the second-most sacks in the AFC (15). Earl Wilson and ex-Giant Dee Hardison combined to replace O'Neal and picked up 12 sacks between them.

Linebackers

With Smith leading the way, operating on the outside for the first time in his career, this unit improved immensely, especially against the run, and Banks certainly can't hurt. Rounding out the picture are former Falcon ILB Thomas Benson (the only LB to start every game), Gary Plummer and Lowe, with soph Ty Allert and former Buc Andy Hawkins good bets to become the key reserves inside and outside, respectively.

Defensive backs

A weak link heading into camp (25th in opponents' passing yards per game). Like Walters, former starting S John Hendy was felled by injuries last year (shoulder/knee) and remains questionable. At the end of '86, the secondary starters were RCB Gill Byrd, who started the year at FS and led the team with five thefts; former Bear LCB Ken Taylor, who replaced shaky Wayne Davis; FS Vencie Glenn, who displayed steady progress after his acquisition from New England and SS Jeff Dale, the unit's best, most durable performer. Look for No. 2 pick Lou Brock Jr. to push the corners.

Special teams

PK Rolf Benirschke remains reliable enough, but the Charger P game featuring Ralf Mojsiejenko was below average (20th net). Anderson and Chandler are explosive punt returners, but the Chargers could use help on kickoffs (26th in average). Walker, who led the league in blocked FG's, Allert and Holohan spearhead a strong coverage unit.

New York Giants

The New York Giants are a team without any serious weaknesses, but one very serious problem. No team over the last seven NFL seasons has successfully defended a Super Bowl title. In fact, only three teams, the Steelers, Dolphins and Packers, have been repeat champions in the 21 years the Super Bowl has been played.

Just as the Bears, 49ers, Raiders and Redskins discovered in recent seasons, it won't be love and it won't be lovelier the second time around, as each of their '87 opponents will be gearing its season around knocking off the defending champs.

As intense as the Giants were in their drive to the championship in '86, they will have to attain an even higher level of intensity in '87 to handle the defense of their title. One good sign is that the Giants weren't nearly as visible on the promotional and banquet circuit as the Bears and 49ers were before them and seem to have maintained a good offseason work ethic.

In terms of talent, the Giants are loaded, but another fact of life for defending champs is that if they don't improve themselves, they won't repeat. The Giants are as strong as anyone in the league at quarterback, running back, tight end and linebacker.

They are more than adequate on the offensive and defensive lines. But they can definitely be improved at wide receiver, defensive back and on special teams.

Quarterbacks

Phil Simms' Super Bowl performance was the best quarterbacking job ever done in a championship game and perhaps the greatest in any game. During the '86 season, he threw for 3,487 yards and 21 TD's. With '86 being his second successive healthy season, he also seems to have shaken the injury prone tag. The one drawback with Simms is he does throw a lot of interceptions, 22 in '86, and still takes too many sacks rather than throwing the ball away. Jeff Rutledge is a solid backup.

Running Back

After a bitter training camp holdout over contract differences in '86, Joe Morris had his second straight brilliant season with 1,516 yards rushing and 15 TD's. Morris has finally convinced the skeptics that he is not at all small, but in fact, incredibly powerful with 195 pounds packed on his 5-7 frame. He has also been extremely durable, suffering only a few nagging injuries in the last two seasons. Behind Morris, O. J. Anderson is a solid backup and Tony Galbreath is

one of the best in the business coming in as a third down pass-catching specialist. FB Maurice Carthon is an excellent blocker, but not a real threat running the ball. Fifth back Lee Rouson is a slashing runner with excellent size and speed. 1985 first-round draft choice George Adams returns after spending '86 on injured reserve and should push Anderson and Galbreath.

Receivers

At TE, Mark Bavaro is the best in the business right now, and Zeke Mowatt came on strong late in '86 after serious knee surgery in 1985. But at the wideouts the Giants are extremely suspect. Starters Lionel Manuel and Bobby Johnson have sometimes provided the big play but are not consistent. And backups Stacy Robinson and Solomon Miller have not lived up to their potential. Phil McConkey is a journeyman. The Giants are hoping for help from first and third-round draft choices Mark Ingram and Stephen Baker.

Offensive Line

Group is solid and loaded with overachievers, but no stickouts. While LT Brad Benson achieved the most notoriety last year, RT Karl Nelson is probably the Giants' best lineman. Billy Ard, Chris Godfrey and Bart Oates

(continued on page 64)



New York Giant QB Phil Simms

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Washington Redskins

Joe Gibbs' Redskins were one of the NFL's biggest surprises in 1986. Picked by most "experts" to finish in the middle of the NFC East behind New York and Dallas, Washington went 14-5, dropping out of the Super Bowl chase in the NFC Championship game with a 17-0 loss to the Giants.

The bad news for the Skins coming out of '86 is that they were 0-4 against the eventual Super Bowl participants, the Giants and Broncos.

The good news is they were 14-1 against the rest of the league, including a 27-13 demolition job on the defending champion Bears, on the road, in the second round of the playoffs.

What happened to allow the Skins to outsmart the wise guys and come up one game short of the Super Bowl? QB Jay Schroeder developed into the NFL's best deep passer in only his first full season as a starter. George Rogers emerged as a franchise back, Kelvin Bryant arrived from the USFL, Gary Clark showed that '85 was no fluke and the enigmatic Dexter Manley led NFL DE's in quarterback sacks.

So all that considered, 1987 figures to be the Redskins' year, right? Maybe! Washington has aged seriously in a number of spots, and plugged a few holes on defense in '86 with little more than warm bodies and prayer. This is a club that could go all the way, or the wrong way in '87.

Quarterbacks

Schroeder's record as a Redskin starter is 19-6. In '86 he threw for 4,109 yards and 22 TD's. Schroeder earned his nickname, "The Mad Bomber," by completing 10 passes of 50 yards or more, setting up eight field goals and producing five TD's in the final two minutes of a game or half and pulling out six victories in games in which the Redskins entered the fourth quarter losing. Schroeder's one big drawback is interceptions, 22 of them last year, and a tendency to get flustered by pressure defenses. Doug Williams is perhaps the NFL's best backup quarterback, but wouldn't mind being traded.

Running Backs

Rogers led the NFL in TD's in '86 with 18, all of them on the ground, and finished seventh in rushing with 1,203 yards. He does still carry a reputation around the league as a fumbler. In spite of missing most of the first half of the season, Bryant rushed for 707 yards and caught 43 passes for 449 yards, while scoring seven TD's. Bryant could very well supplant Rogers as the feature back if he's healthy. Keith Griffin is an extremely strong, quick, productive and dependable No. 3 back, but three just



Washington RB Kelvin Bryant

isn't enough in the NFL and depth is a problem.

Receivers

Art Monk confirmed in '86 he is one of the NFL's premier receivers following his 91 receptions in 1985 with 73 catches for 1,068 yards in '86. Clark has caught 146 passes for 2,191 yards and 12 TD's in the two seasons since he came to the Skins from the USFL, making him and Monk the NFL's most productive pair of starting wideouts. Backup Ken Sanders is a breakaway threat, but again, depth is suspect here. TE Clint Didier was injured most of the second half of '86, and Don Warren suffered with nagging injuries late in the year too. When healthy, they're a good pair. No. 3 TE Anthony Jones is unproven.

Offensive Line

One of the Skins' real strengths ever since their Super Bowl years, but showing a bit of wear and tear. LT Joe Jacoby and LG Russ Grimm both played hurt though the playoffs last year, but are still Pro Bowl calibre. C Jeff Bostic has slipped a bit the last year or two and RT Mark May, who inherited the job when George Starke retired, has never really dominated. R. C. Theilemann, who stepped in at RG when 34-year old Ken Huff went out for the '86 season with an injury, will be 32 before the '87 season starts. Raleigh McKenzie may be ready to step in at guard.

Defensive Line

A Redskin strength but an area also showing some age. DLT Dave Butz will be 37 and has been unsure as to whether or not to try it again in '87. Manley, one of the NFL's dominant pass rushers, has been in and out of trouble ever since he joined the team, and admitted to an alcohol problem shortly after the championship game loss to the Giants. Darryl Grant is tough against the run at DRT and DLE Charles Mann has developed into an excellent pass rusher.

Linebackers

Definitely the biggest problem facing the Skins in '87. Mel Kaufman, Washington's best LB, spent 1986 on injured reserve. Monte Coleman, Neal Olkewicz and Rich Milot will be 30, 31, and 30 respectively this year. Olkewicz and Milot suffered nagging injuries in '86 while Coleman also did a stint on injured reserve. LOLB Calvin Daniels was stable but not exciting after coming from Kansas City and rookie Shawn Burks showed some promise in '86.

Defensive Backs

Darrell Green is one of the NFL's very best pure cover CB's and surprisingly strong coming up to force the run. He may also be the NFL's fastest man. FS Curtis Jordan has given the Skins some big games, but is 34 and has lost a step. Gibbs hopes his first pick in the '87 draft, S Bryan Davis, can help immediately. '86 rookies Tim Morrison and Alvin Walton ended up starting RCB and SS and both showed promise.

Special Teams

Always a strength of Gibbs-coached teams, the kick cover and return games seem more than adequate, and Steve Cox finished '86 fourth in NFC punting. Placekicking was a disaster all through '86 until Jess Atkinson arrived two weeks before the playoffs. While Atkinson was solid under pressure for a few weeks, there are still serious doubts if he can be the answer.

Dallas Cowboys

While the Redskins were one of the NFL's biggest surprises in 1986, the Dallas Cowboys were clearly one of the biggest disappointments.

How far did the Cowboys fall last year? Their 7-9 record gave them their first losing season since 1964. They finished the season with a five-game losing streak, the first time they'd lost five straight since 1965. Dallas was 2-6 against teams that were .500 or better, with an average margin of defeat of 16 1/2 points in the six losses.

Dallas did not send a player to the Pro Bowl for the first time in its history. And hardest of all for the Cowboys and their fans to swallow, was that the rest of the NFL seemed to love every minute of it.

1986 was not a total washout. Herschel Walker arrived from the USFL and displayed promise of great things to come in the NFL, while Tom Landry and offensive coordinator Paul Hackett proved that Walker and Tony Dorsett could be a tremendous double threat in the same offense. WR Mike Sherrard became the deep threat the Cowboys have been seeking for several years and Randy White continued to be a pillar of strength in spite of the decay around him.

Can the Pokes come all the way back in '87? In a word, No.

Quarterbacks

Danny White fractured his wrist during the ninth game of the '86 season, which Dallas went into at 6-2 and very much in the hunt. While he should be completely healed in '87 and ranks as one of the league's all-time leading passers in several categories, he still carries the tag of a QB who may not be able to win the big one. What White's injury did was raise some serious questions as to whether backup Steve Pelluer is truly the QB of the future. After going 6-3 with White, Dallas was 1-6 with Pelluer at the helm. Did the team crumble over night, or was Pelluer that bad? No. 3 Reggie Collier is one of the best athletes in the NFL, but hasn't really been tested at QB.

Running Backs

In spite of an '86 plagued with knee problems and 10 years of NFL pounding, Dorsett is still one of the best. He managed 748 yards rushing and 25 receptions for 267 more yards in spite of missing several starts and playing hurt in a number of other games. There is still greatness in him if he can stay healthy. Walker rushed for 737 yards and caught an incredible

76 passes for 837 yards while scoring 14 TD's. He cannot dominate the NFL as he did the USFL, but he is also a great one. Timmy Newsome and Robert Lavette provide solid depth.

Receivers

Sherrard caught 41 passes for an 18.1 yard average and five TD's, and will be an All Pro if he learns to catch over the middle. Tony Hill started strong in '86, but faded badly, finishing with 49 catches, but only three TD's. Mike Renfro was injured on and off through the year and is 32 years old, and Gordon Banks is not the answer as a No. 3 WR. Doug Cosbie is one of the NFL's premier TE's, but was bitter and left training camp last year over the huge contract given Walker and had his worst season ever. Thornton Chandler was a steal on the sixth round last year from Alabama and showed great promise as Cosbie's eventual replacement.

Offensive Line

Perhaps the Pokes' biggest problem in '86 looks even bleaker with the retirement since last season of ORT Jim Cooper. Always a strength of the Cowboys of old, the OL has come apart. OT's Howard Richards and Phil Pozderac just aren't the players the

(Continued on page 64)



Cowboy RB Herschel Walker

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St. Louis Cardinals

The St. Louis Cardinals are a team that is going nowhere fast, and quite possibly going nowhere at all looking at the current state of the organization.

1986 saw the Cardinals shock their fans and many NFL scouts by drafting LB Anthony Bell out of Michigan State, a player many felt they could have obtained in the second round, with the fifth pick in the entire draft, and then using their second pick for UCLA PK John Lee, who should have gone no higher than the late third to mid-fifth round.

Once the regular season rolled around, the team's one bonafide superstar, Roy Green, became embroiled in a heated dispute over the club's medical practices, and missed five starts after electing surgery to remove bone chips from his ankle that the club said was unnecessary.

OG Doug Dawson, DE Curtis Greer and WR Pat Tilley, three more of St. Louis' better players, were lost for most or all of the season due to injury, and Greer and Dawson are not expected to play again.

QB Neil Lomax, just three years ago the fair-haired boy of an up-and-coming organization, has fallen so completely out of favor that the Cardinals once again shocked the league and their own fans by using the sixth pick in the '87 draft to tab Colorado State QB Kelly Stoufer, when quality help was available to aid desperate situations on the offensive and defensive lines.

All of that behind them, the Cardinals venture into the '87 season coming off their worst performance, 4-11-1, since they moved to St. Louis. Second-year coach Gene Stallings has the complete respect of his players but not his boss, owner Bill Bidwell, and a talent acquisition system that has the rest of the league scratching its head. The future does not look bright.

Quarterbacks

The drafting of Stoufer would seem to force the Cards to move Lomax, but nobody wants his guaranteed contract calling for \$875,000 in '87. Many of Lomax's problems are self-imposed. Hindered the last year and a half by an offensive line that couldn't block a stiff breeze, Lomax spent the time running for his life, completely losing confidence in himself, and being far less than cooperative with the Cards' efforts to help him. Stoufer, according to most experts, is at least two or three years away, and may never pan out. '86 Backup Cliff Stoudt couldn't do it with the job handed to him in Pittsburgh, never did much to set the USFL on fire, and doesn't look like anything



St. Louis RB Stump Mitchell

he'll ever be much more than a decent backup.

Running Backs

The starting duo of Stump Mitchell and Earl Ferrell has been one of the Cards' few areas of strength, so much so that all-time leading Cardinal rusher O. J. Anderson was sent packing to the Giants midway through '86. Ferrell is an excellent blocker and short-yardage man, while Mitchell is always a threat to go all the way. Durability is a concern with Mitchell because of his 5-9, 188-pound frame. Backups Ron Wolfley and Vai Sikahema are young and impressive, but one more tailback type would help.

Receivers

This could be a strength or weakness, depending on health, and age. If Green is healthy he is one of the best, but '86 was his least productive in years. J. T. Smith, acquired as a free agent from the Chiefs, had an incredible '86 with 80 catches for 1,014 yards, but is 31 years old. With Tilley perhaps through, backups are '86 rookies Troy Johnson, Eric Swanson and Don Holmes, all unknown quantities. TE's are mediocre with starter Doug Marsh never really fulfilling his early promise and backup Cap Boso a 1986 free agent from Illinois.

Offensive Line

After showing tremendous promise with youth and talent in 1984, this has been a disaster area the last two years. OT's Luis Sharpe and Tootie Robbins can play, if they can stay healthy and keep their weight down. Three '86 rookies, OG's Ray Brown and Derek Kennard and C Gene Chilton are the Cards' main hope for improvement

ment, but they have an awful lot to learn. OG Lance Smith is a third-year player from LSU who started at the end of '86.

Defensive Line

Devastated by the loss of Greer and other serious injuries early in '86, only NT David Galloway played well last year. Hurt early in '86, DRE Bubba Baker had an off campaign but could rebound. Bob Clasby and Stafford Mays will fight for the other end spot if the Cards remain in a 3-4 defense.

Linebackers

The problem with the St. Louis 3-4 is that what was assumed to be a strong area in '86 turned out to be a serious weakness. First-round picks Bell, E. J. Junior and Freddie Joe Nunn combined for 11 sacks, two fumble recoveries and zero interceptions in '86. They are joined by Niko Noga. The problem is that all four are better suited for a 4-3, with Junior backed up by Noga in the middle, but the Cardinals don't have four down linemen.

Defensive Backs

This appears to be the Cards' one real strength. SS Leonard Smith is among the best and FS Lonnie Young is solid. CB's Cedric Mack and Carl Carter came on strong last year and Dennis Thurman and Wayne Smith provide excellent depth.

Special Teams

Return and cover specialists Vai Sikahema and Ron Wolfley went to the Pro Bowl last year. But John Lee missed five games and was 8-of-13 on FG attempts, 1-of-4 outside the 40 and missed three PAT's. P Greg Cater finished 10th in the NFC.

Philadelphia Eagles

The most noticeable thing about the Philadelphia Eagles is that with Buddy Ryan as head coach, win or lose, they're never boring. The problem is that while that may be exciting, the Eagles look like a team that is going to do a whole lot more losing before it starts doing any serious winning.

After predicting an NFC East title for his troops, Ryan released 20 veterans from 1985, including nine starters, among them all of the starting LB's. He also traded away valuable '87 draft picks to acquire Matt Cavanaugh from the 49ers. Cavanaugh never became a factor and projects as no more than a backup down the road.

Bright spots in '86 were the rapid development of Randall Cunningham at QB in spite of suffering 72 (four more than the previous NFL record of 68 for an entire team) of the Eagles' record-shattering 104 sacks allowed for 708 yards in losses, the emergence of Reggie White as one of the NFL's premier pass rushers and the play at RLB of rookie Alonzo Johnson, who seems tailor made for Ryan's 4-6 defense.

The big question to be answered about the Eagles in '87 is: Can Ryan's players survive and overcome the wrath and chaos of Buddy's regime quickly enough for him to survive the impatience of his boss, owner Norman Braman?

Braman is on record as saying he will be "damn disappointed if the Eagles aren't in the playoffs in '87." He would be wise to prepare himself for a big letdown.

Quarterbacks

The future looks bright for Cunningham, who finished '86 with a QB rating of 72.9, identical to Washington's Jay Schroeder. He was 111-of-209 for 1,391 yards and eight TD's while throwing only seven Int's. He also ran 66 times for 540 yards and five more TD's. His 8.2 yards per carry were more than twice as good as any other Eagle rusher. Ryan says the QB job is Cunningham's to lose. Ron Jaworski has left via the free agent route and while Cavanaugh is not a starter, he is a dependable backup. Problem is if Cunningham struggles early, with Jaworski gone, Ryan will have nowhere to turn.

Running Backs

Right now, it's anybody's guess. Four '86 rookies - Keith Byars, Anthony Toney, Charles Crawford and Junior Tautalatasi - will battle with 1983 No. 1 draft choice Michael Haddix. Byars is a potential franchise back who may never be healthy enough to live up to his potential.



Eagle QB Randall Cunningham

Toney, Crawford and Tautalatasi all have great potential but offered little production in '86. Haddix's career has been plagued by injuries and he's never really fulfilled his potential.

Receivers

This group is definitely the strength of the Eagle offense. The starting wideouts, Mike Quick and Kenny Jackson, would be the envy of any NFL coach, although Ryan has been disenchanted with Jackson and took him out of the starting lineup several times in '86. Nonetheless, they are a pair of blue-chippers. Ron Johnson and Greg Garrity are decent backups. TE John Spagnola is a good one who spent a good part of '86 battling Ryan more than the opposition. Fact is, whatever Ryan's problems with Spagnola are, he's got

nobody in his league to push him.

Offensive Line

This is probably the worst group in the league. By the end of '86, rookies Nick Haden, Matt Darwin and Joe Conwell were starting at OLG, C and ORT, respectively. ORG Ron Baker has the only real experience in the group, but he will be 33 this year. Second year OLT Ken Reeves appears to be the only member of the group with any serious promise. Backups are Bob Landsee and Mike Black.

Defensive Line

Reggie White should dominate for several years to come. But who will help him on the Eagle defensive line? Starting DRT Reggie Singletary will be experimented with as an offensive lineman in training camp. At 31, DLT Ken Clarke's best years may be behind him, and DRE Greg Brown is mediocre. Ryan is in love with '87 first-round pick Jerome Brown and has already penciled him into Singletary's DRT spot. Backups Clyde Simmons and Tom Strauthers have much to learn.

Linebackers

After redesigning the starting unit from '85, Ryan was reasonably pleased with the performances of LLB Gary Cobb, MLB Mike Reichenbach and rookie RLB Seth Joyner along with Johnson. They are all the type of athletes required to play the positions in Ryan's 4-6, and they all love the knowledge that the linebackers are the key to the defense's success. Look for all of them to continue to improve, while Dwayne Jiles and Jody Schulz push them for playing time.

Defensive Backs

The biggest problem in '86 was that SS Wes Hopkins, probably the Eagles' best football player, went down for the season with a knee injury which required surgery. If he comes back healthy, the Eagles could have an outstanding corps of DB's in a year or two. Roynell Young continues to be very solid at LCB, particularly in man cover situations, and Elbert Foules came on very strong at RCB. Terry Hoage played extremely well at safety, as did Andre Waters. Evan Cooper, Brenard Wilson and William Frizzell provide fine depth.

Special Teams

After two strong seasons, Paul McFadden had a terrible year in '86, at one point missing eight straight FG attempts from outside of 40 yards. Rookie P John Teltschik was adequate, ninth in the NFC in net average with a strong 20 punts inside the 20. The Eagles' return and kick cover teams were very poor, finishing in the bottom half of the league.

Chicago Bears

The Chicago Bears' hopes for an NFL championship in 1987 seem to rest squarely, and literally, on the shoulder of Jim McMahon. If that surgically repaired shoulder, and the rest of the "punky" QB's injury-riddled body can hold up through the '87 season, the Bears will be favored to claim their second Super Bowl title in three years.

Over the past two seasons, the Bears have gone 32-3. They are still among the NFL's younger teams. When healthy, they have no apparent weakness. And they seem capable of overcoming almost any obstacle, except the loss of McMahon.

Chicago's defense has been virtually impenetrable for the past three seasons, they have led the NFL in rushing the last four years, and their overall special-team play has been tops in the league the last two years.

The one chink in their armor is the fragility of their passing game when McMahon is not at the controls. Team president Mike McCaskey and head coach Mike Ditka agreed on this fact of life, and as a result they used their first-round draft choice this year to tab QB Jim Harbaugh and correct their only obvious flaw, but that was with the long haul in mind. For '87, McMahon remains the key.

Quarterbacks

What makes McMahon so invaluable is not his great arm or athletic ability, because he actually has neither. He is a good athlete with an average arm, but also an uncanny ability to improvise and make exactly the right move at exactly the right time. He is a big-play guy with the ability to kindle the flame in his teammates whenever the need seems to arise. Harbaugh will be brought along very slowly and allowed to learn the system, so he is not thrown into the same pressure-cooker that Doug Flutie, Mike Tomczak and Steve Fuller were forced to endure last year. Flutie is no longer the fair-haired boy, but probably still the No. 2 QB, while Tomczak and Fuller can be expected to be seeking employment elsewhere.

Running Backs

The fullbacks are adequate, and the running backs are probably the best trio in the league. Walter Payton is the most productive runner in the history of the game, by a huge margin, and his backups, Thomas Sanders and Neal Anderson, would not only be starters but 1,000-yard gainers with almost any other team. FB's Matt Suhey and Calvin Thomas are excellent blockers, extremely dependable on third-and-short, and Suhey, the



Jim McMahon

starter, almost never fumbles.

Receivers

Willie Gault is the game-breaker. He is one of the fastest men in the NFL and has dramatically improved his hands and routes from year to year. The Bears suffered last year with Dennis McKinnon lost for the season to knee surgery, but he is back for '87 and supposedly 100%. Dennis Gentry is a converted running back, and Lew Barnes and Keith Ortego are decent backups but not starting material. TE's Emery Moorehead and Tim Wrightman thrive on their routes, hands and blocking ability because Moorehead is a step slower than you'd like your tight end to be, and Wrightman is two steps slower than him.

Offensive Line

OT Jimbo Covert is one of the very best in the game. C Jay Hilgenberg has been to the Pro Bowl the last two years, and OG's Tom Thayer and Mark Bortz are extremely big, quick and strong. Ditka has been somewhat concerned with the attitude of OT Keith Van Home, but Keith is also a good one. Kurt Becker, like the backup running backs, would be starting at guard

or tackle for almost any other team. Stefan Humphries and Paul Blair also provide fine depth.

Defensive Line

This group is the best in the NFL, but health is a concern. DE's Dan Hampton and Richard Dent, and DT Steve McMichael have all been All-Pros in the last two years, and the fourth starter is, of course, William "The Fridge" Perry.

Al Harris has moved back to his DE spot this year after two years as a linebacker, and veterans Mike Hartenstein and Henry Waechter are also strong backups. The problem is that Hampton and McMichael both have serious surgical knees, and Perry's weight can go up and down like a yo-yo. Perry can carry up to 320 pounds, but too much over that and he becomes slow and ineffective. Bad news for Bear opponents is that Perry showed up at spring minicamp at 317.

Linebackers

The great debate is: Whose are better, the Bears' or the Giants'? MLB Mike Singletary has twice been NFC Defensive Player of the Year and is a perennial All-Pro. Wilber Marshall and Otis Wilson are phenomenal athletes who have each been to one Pro Bowl in the last two years and make plays all over the field. Ron Rivera is a strong backup for Singletary in the middle, but, with Harris switched back to end, the Bears lack depth on the outside.

Defensive Backs

Safeties Gary Fencik, Todd Bell and Dave Duerson are all All-Pros. Many felt that CB Mike Richardson, who has improved each season, should also have received a Pro Bowl nod last year. Vestee Jackson is the other corner and is coming off an impressive rookie year, but with quite a bit still to learn. Shaun Gayle and Reggie Phillips are the nickel backs. CB Leslie Frazier was the starter across from Richardson in '85, but he suffered a serious knee injury in Super Bowl XX, and his career may be over.

Special Teams

Kevin Butler has led the NFC in scoring in each of his two seasons in the league. In 1986 he ran hot and cold, hitting two very cold streaks, but he doesn't figure to be seriously challenged. P Maury Buford was second in the NFL in net average. Gentry led the NFL in kickoff-return average in '86 and took one 91 yards for a TD. Barnes is a dangerous punt returner, but he has a tendency to fumble. Anderson was a terror on kickoff and punt coverage in '86, as were Jim Morrissey and Dan Rains.

Minnesota Vikings

One of the newer trends in the NFL over the past four or five years has been the surprise team. A club that everybody new was improving, but nobody knew had become so good, so fast. The '85 Bears and Patriots and '86 Giants and Broncos were those kind of clubs.

Now, the wise guys are looking for the surprise team, and an awful lot of them out there are saying if there is a surprise this year, it could be the Minnesota Vikings.

1986 saw the Vikings coming in with a rookie head coach, Jerry Burns. A rehabilitated QB in Tommy Kramer, who missed much of '85 with injuries. And a bunch of players on the verge of stardom, or seeking new careers after a weak 7-9 1985 under Bud Grant, and a disastrous 1984 which brought a 3-13 record under Les Steckel.

The Vikings' 1986 record of 9-7 was an impressive improvement, but it really doesn't tell the whole story. The fact is one more victory would have put the Vikings in the playoffs. And when you consider that the Vikes lost five games by a total of 18 points, blowing fourth-quarter leads in three of them, you see how close they were to being a really good football team.

The Vikes are probably still a year

away from being a legitimate contender, but a Wild Card spot in '87 would be an important step in that direction. More than a few NFL insiders feel it's a realistic goal for the "Purple People Eaters" to chase.

Quarterbacks

Tommy Kramer had the finest of his 10 NFL seasons as a QB in '86, finishing as the NFL's No. 1 rated passer. His 3,000 yards on 208 completions for 24 TD's with only 10 Int.'s was the largest single factor in the resurgence of the Vikings. At 32, he has reached at an age where many QB's have just begun to peak. And if he can stay healthy, could lead the Vikes for the next five seasons. Backup Wade Wilson surprised a lot of people with his quality performances in relief of Kramer, and appears content to remain a relief pitcher.

Running Backs

The Vike running game revolves around little Darrin Nelson who paced them in '86 with 793 yards, for a 4.2 yard average. Ted Brown is not the Pro Bowl caliber runner he once was, and Alfred Anderson and Allen Rice are dependable, if not spectacular. Acknowledging their need for more running to balance Kramer's passing game, the Vikes grabbed Penn State

All-America D. J. Dozier on the first round of the '87 Draft. Look for Dozier to make an immediate impact.

Receivers

The Vikings have a potential superstar in WR Anthony Carter, a Pro Bowl TE in Steve Jordan and a bunch of guys who can play. If 33-year old Sammy White can make a complete recovery from a hand injury which kept him on injured reserve throughout the '86 season, the Vikings are in great shape. Leo Lewis grabbed 32 passes for an average of 18.8 yards per catch, and Hassan Jones is coming off his rookie season with 28 catches for 570 yards and four TD's.

Offensive Line

Thought to be a weakness in '85, this unit turned around dramatically in '86, thanks mainly to the arrival of OLT Gary Zimmerman, and the return to health of OLG Jim Hough and C Dennis Swilley. G Terry Tausch and T Tim Irwin are real stable on the right side and huge Curtis Rouse, David Huffman and Kirk Lowdermilk are excellent backups.

Defensive Line

A sore spot for the Vikes ever since the days of their "Purple People

(Continued on page 64)



Viking QB Tommy Kramer

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Detroit Lions

The Lions will carry the burden of 12 non-winning seasons in the last 14 years into 1987, and realize that a climb to .500 from 1986's 5-11 would be a major improvement and moral victory.

Head Coach Darryl Rogers prepares for '87 knowing that his third season at the Lions' helm could very well be a pivotal one. The Lions' 7-9 record and upsets of Dallas, San Francisco, Miami and the Jets in his rookie campaign had left him and the Lions' brass and fans hoping for much better than what they got in '86. Some feel that Rogers is squarely atop the NFL head coach's bubble in '87, and anything short of a three to four game improvement might well cost him his job.

Perhaps the biggest key to the Lions' and Rogers' success in '87 will be the performance of second-year QB Chuck Long, who has been handed the starting job and told it is his to keep, or lose.

Detroit will also have to show tremendous improvement in its receiving corps, pass rush and defense against the run if they are to make a serious move upward in '87.

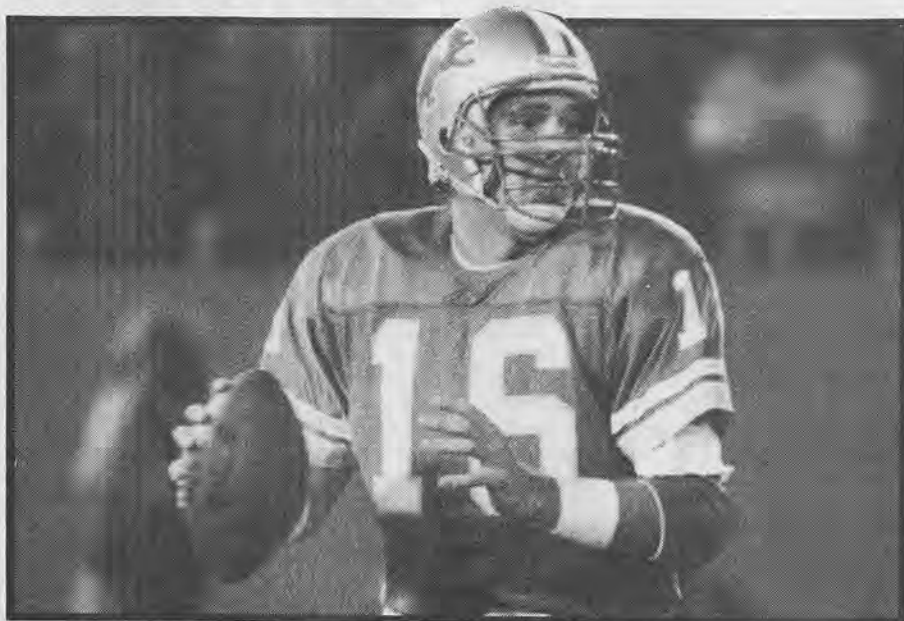
One other interesting story to watch with the Lions in '87 is the rumor that long-time GM Russ Thomas may be in trouble with the hiring of former Bears' GM Jerry Vainisi. The scenario goes that Vainisi could lure his best friend Mike Ditka, unhappy with Bear owner Mike McCaskey and in the final year of his contract, to Detroit in '88 to replace Rogers, with Vainisi stepping in for Thomas if their isn't big improvement in Detroit in '87.

Quarterbacks

Long comes off a great All-American career at Iowa, but had very little playing time for the Lions in '86. He entered in the fourth quarter of a 38-17 victory over Tampa the 12th week of the season and threw a 34-yard TD pass to WR Leonard Marshall on his first professional passing attempt. On the season he was 21-of-40 for 247 yards, two TD's and two Int.'s. Joe Ferguson is at the tail end of an outstanding career and should be content to backup and work with Long, but it is hard to imagine Eric Hipple not doing everything in his power to try and push Long for the job. Detroit's QB situation has been unsettled since the heydays of Gregg Landry in the 70's.

Running Backs

James Jones arrived in 1986 as one of the NFL's best complete FB's in his fourth season out of Florida. He is joined in the backfield by '86 rookie



Detroit QB Chuck Long

sensation Garry James. James rushed for 688 yards as a rookie, and he and Jones give the Lions an outstanding pair of starting backs. Behind them, Alvin Moore, Scott Williams and Herman Hunter are basically journeymen and some depth is badly needed.

Receivers

The Lions' top three in '86, Jeff Chadwick, Carl Bland and Pete Mandley, all suffered through nagging injuries in '86 and none are exactly world-beaters when healthy (although Chadwick does have deceptive speed, excellent hands and managed 53 catches for 995 yards last year while playing hurt). Leonard Thompson is at the end of an excellent career in Detroit after also suffering injuries and tailing to 25 catches in '86. He will be 35 this year. TE Jimmie Giles was an excellent midseason acquisition in '86, but will be 33 this year and is not the player he was in his prime in Tampa. David Lewis still hasn't fulfilled the potential he showed coming out of California four years ago.

Offensive Line

This unit solidified nicely last year with the acquisition of OLG Harvey Salem from Houston and OLT Lomas Brown's development into a Pro Bowler in just his second year out of Florida. Steve Mott at C and G Keith Dorney and T Rich Strenger on the right side are solid players. The Lions could use a few solid backups.

Defensive Line

Six-year veteran Keith Ferguson anchored this group at LE in '86 and may be the only holdover starter this year. First and second draft picks, DE Reggie Rogers and NT Jerry Ball, will

both be given the chance to step right in and start after disappointing years from William Gay and Eric Williams. Last year's backups, Curtis Green, Steve Baack and Leon Evans will have a hard time making the team.

Linebackers

The acquisition of Vernon Maxwell to play RILB and the development of ROLB Michael Cofer and LILB James Harrell during the '86 season has this group looking promising coming into '87. LOLB Angelo King is not as big or strong as you would like, and as a group the Lions do not play the run nearly as well as they defend against the pass. Shelton Robinson, James Johnson and Paul Butcher provide nice depth.

Defensive Backs

RCB Bruce McNorton is one of the NFC's more consistent pure cover-men and does a nice job coming up with the big interception. FS Devon Mitchell took the starting job away from William Graham in his rookie year out of Iowa, and played exceptionally. Another rookie, Duane Galloway, started at LCB in '86, but he still has a lot to learn. Demetrious Johnson plays the run well from his SS position, but is not a great pass defender.

Special Teams

PK Eddie Murray has been among the most consistent in the NFL for the last seven seasons. Inside the 40, Murray almost never misses. Punting may be a serious problem. Jim Arnold was a midseason acquisition in '86 to replace Mike Black, but both had atrocious seasons. Pete Mandley and Herman Hunter are respectable, but not threatening, punt and kick returners.

Green Bay Packers

No team in the NFL enters the 1987 season with more questions to answer than the Green Bay Packers. After three consecutive 8-8 seasons, Head Coach Forrest Gregg cleaned house prior to the start of the 1986 season, then led his youthful Packers to a 4-12 mark. It was the Packers' worst season since 1958, when they finished 0-10-1.

The questions to be answered on the field: Is Randy Wright the answer at quarterback? Can his offensive line protect him? Who will play wide receiver? Where will the pass rush come from? How will the defense improve upon finishing 1986 27th in points allowed, 24th in sacks and 22nd in takeaways?

Questions the front office must deal with: Do the Packers have an unusually high number of players with questionable character? Are the Packers cheap-shot artists?

While many in Green Bay think the last two questions are unfair, the record speaks for itself, and detracts from the team's performance on the field.

Certain Packer off-the-field problems have been well-documented, and national broadcasts of Packer-Lion and Packer-Giant games late in 1986 showed clearly that the Packers' tendencies toward late hits and "over aggressiveness" are not something reserved strictly for their twice annual wars with the Chicago Bears.

One final question will also be asked time and again in 1987. Is Forrest Gregg, who is in the final year of a five-year contract, the man for the job of Green Bay Packer Head Coach?

Quarterbacks

Starter Randy Wright was one of the most improved players on the Packer team in 1986, and is firmly entrenched as the No. 1 QB. His 263 completions for 3,247 yards and 17 TD's surprised a number of opponents in '86, and greatly impressed his coaches, as did his maturity and leadership. But the 23 interceptions he threw and lack of great natural athletic skills are still concerns. Vince Ferragamo, a rehabilitated Robbie Bosco (shoulder surgery) and Chuck Fusina will battle for the two backup spots. Realistically, Bosco is the only one who could eventually challenge Wright.

Running Backs

Packer brass feels the only things keeping Kenneth Davis from being its first 1,000 yard rusher since Terrell Middleton in 1978, are his attitude, and the amount of playing time he will most certainly lose to first-round draft choice Brent Fullwood. Gregg



Green Bay LB Tim Harris

feels Fullwood can be a "franchise" player. Eddie Lee Ivery, Gerry Ellis, Gary Ellerson and Paul Ott Carruth offer excellent depth.

Receivers

With the offseason trade of James Lofton to the Raiders, the Packers have big trouble here. Phillip Epps is the best wideout, and he is questionable after a serious ankle injury in '86. Walter Stanley has superstar potential, but an awful long way to go to get there. After that pair, the cupboard is bare. Mike Moffitt was the only other true WR on the roster at the end of '86. Fifth draft choice Frank Neal from Fort Hays almost has to make the team. TE's Dan Ross and Ed West have seen better days, and Mark Lewis is a journeyman.

Offensive Line

OLT Ken Ruettgers is the kind of guy you can build a whole line around, and ORG Ron Hallstrom continues to improve from year-to-year. OLG Tom Neville, C Karl Swanke and ORT Alan Veingrad are adequate, but could be

improved upon. Backup Rich Moran is a dependable reserve. No. 3 draft pick Dave Croston could provide immediate help.

Defensive Line

DE's Alphonso Carreker, Robert Brown, Ezra Johnson and Ben Thomas are capable but not exciting. The same can be said of NT's Donnie Humphrey and Charles Martin. One of the great mysteries of the '87 NFL College Draft was how the Packers could have passed Reggie Rogers and Jerome Brown to tab Fullwood when the needs on the defensive line are so obvious. One potential answer is that with the selection of LB's Johnny Holland and Scott Stephen, Gregg is considering trying a beefed-up Tim Harris at DE. If Martin comes on strong in training camp, Humphrey could also be tried at end.

Linebackers

This should be the Packers' greatest area of strength. If Harris stays at LB, he will be a true impact player. He has the size and speed to play inside or outside, and is a devastating blitzer. Brian Noble, a third-year player out of Arizona State, also showed signs of greatness in '86. He is a pure inside guy who stuffs the run and clogs the middle in short passing situations. All Pro John Anderson will attempt what seems like his umpteenth return from the injured reserve list, and Randy Scott and Bobby Leopold are both good, solid ballplayers. Additionally, rookies Holland and Stephen will both come to camp with grades that indicate they should eventually start and possibly be stickouts.

Defensive Backs

LCB Mark Lee was the Packers' most consistent and outstanding player in '86. He tied for second in the NFL with nine interceptions, and drew man-to-man assignments on the opposition's top wideout every week. RCB Mossy Cade has shown flashes, but also makes mistakes. He also must worry about off-the-field legal problems which could affect his future. Safeties Ken Stills and George Greene are both big-hitters, tough against the run, but too often in trouble in coverage because of their aggressiveness. Backup David Greenwood is all potential, little production. S Mark Murphy spent '86 on injured reserve.

Special Teams

Al Del Greco is a solid if not sensational PK who found a little more distance but a little less accuracy in his leg in '86. Rookie Bill Smith from Mississippi will probably win the punting job from Don Bracken. WR Stanley is a dazzling return man, and coverage teams were solid in '86.

Tampa Bay Buccaneers

That the Tampa Bay Buccaneers will be an improved football team in 1987 seems a safe bet. After all, can they possibly get any worse.

1986 marked the third time in four years that the Bucs finished the NFL season with a 2-14 record. But even in the two previous two-win seasons, the Bucs didn't seem to have the glaring weaknesses they currently possess in almost every department.

The question on the Bucs for 1987 is not can they make the playoffs, or be a Super Bowl contender, but can they develop enough new people, in enough areas, fast enough, to win five or six football games? After the past four seasons, that would be a dramatic accomplishment for new head coach Ray Perkins.

While owner Hugh Culverhouse has given Perkins firm control of the Buc fortunes, it was not an overly popular move. Recently departed Leeman Bennett only won four games in two years, but many insiders felt he never had a chance with what he was given to work with. Bennett was at least well-liked by the media.

Tampa fans have been cool at best to the selection of Perkins, since many felt that local hero Steve Spurrier would have been a much better choice. Most of the media that has worked with Perkins in the past would rather work with almost anybody else, so the new regime is not exactly off on the right foot. Perkins' every move will be scrutinized closely, and he will not often be given the benefit of the doubt.

Quarterbacks

No one will doubt Perkins or Culverhouse here as Vinny "The Franchise" Testaverde is signed, sealed, and delivered, and that is already a big improvement over last year's Bo Jackson fiasco. Most scouts agree that Testaverde is the best QB prospect since John Elway, and all he needs is enough time to learn before he turns the franchise around. Second-round draft pick Don Smith is also a fine prospect, and veteran Steve DeBerg may be just the right guy to help bring the two kids along and provide quality backup if injuries strike.

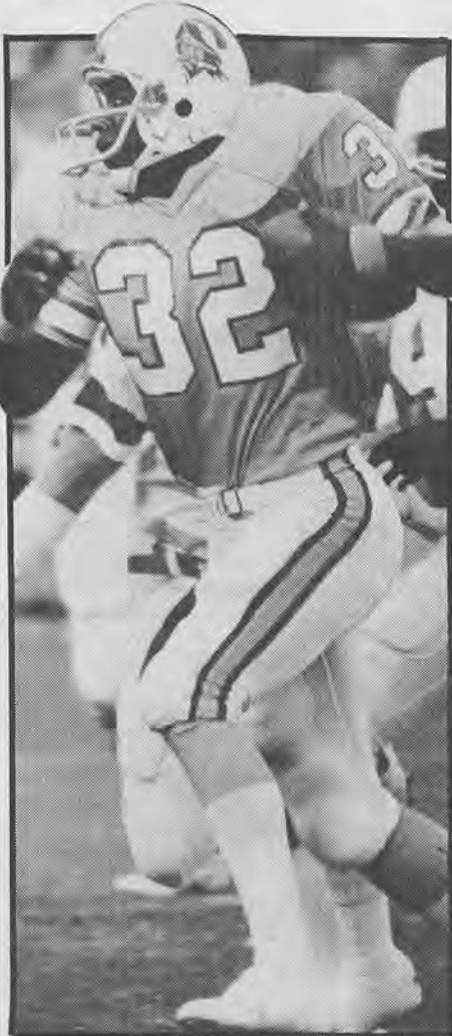
Running Backs

James Wilder is one of the NFL's best, if he has anything left from the incredible pounding he's taken, and burden he's had to carry of being "the offense" for the last three years. Nathan Wonsley looked like a diamond in the rough early in '86 but his career is very much in doubt after a serious neck injury. Ron Springs has hung on strictly because of his experience

and the Bucs' lack of ballcarriers. Pat Franklin, Bobby Howard, Greg Allen, Dennis Bligen and Mack Boatner will all get shots but have done little to date to distinguish themselves.

Receivers

Gerald Carter is the best of the WR's and figures to get better with Testaverde airing the ball out regularly. Vince Heflin and Phil Freeman will also see lots of action. David Williams was an extremely productive college player who has shown little to date in the pros in short stints with the Bears and Bucs. Leonard Harris returns from injured reserve in '86 and rookies Mark Carrier and Bruce Hill will have excellent shots at making the club. Calvin McGee and K.D. Dunn were the Buc TE's at the end of '86, but Jerry Bell, Jeff Spek and Chris Faulkner, all three of whom spent part or all of the season on injured reserve, may all be better prospects, and rookie Rob Hall from Hawaii has a good shot at sticking.



Tampa Bay RB James Wilder

Offensive Line

OT's Rob Taylor, Ron Heller, and J. D. Maarleveld are all fine prospects, particularly Taylor, and veteran Marvin Powell will return from injured reserve to challenge them and work with them. The Bucs felt good enough about OG's George Yarno, Rick Mallory and Greg Robinson, to give Sean Farrell the trade he requested. While this is by no means an established group, there is some talent to work with.

Defensive Line

Not a bad front three, with John Cannon at DLE, All-Pro Dave Logan at NT, and Ron Holmes at DRE. What they need is some depth to spell them at times, and give them some added pass rush on third and long. Tyrone Keys, another player on injured reserve in '86 could help, and backup Bob Nelson has some promise.

Linebackers

This is a group loaded with promise, but no established players on the outside. ILB's Jeff Davis and Scot Brantley are solid, and sometimes dominate. OLB's Ervin Randle, Jackie Walker, Chris Washington and Kevin Murphy offer so much promise that the Bucs peddled superstar Hugh Green to the Dolphins last year, and another young OLB, Keith Browner, to the 49ers during the offseason, but they all still have much to learn. Second and fifth draft choices, Winston Moss and Don Graham, make linebacker easily the Bucs' greatest strength and suggests that one or two of the group could be tried as pass-rushing DE's in training camp.

Defensive Backs

The Bucs are extremely young and inexperienced in the defensive backfield. RCB Rod Jones was the Bucs' second draft choice last year, and he performed admirably for a rookie in '86. SS Craig Swoope was another rookie starter in '86. He's a step slower than you'd like but has a fine nose for the ball, particularly playing the run. FS Craig Curry is a fifth-year player out of Texas, and LCB Vito McKeever will be in his third season out of Florida. Jeremiah Castille is the nickel back and Kevin Walker, Ivory Sully and Bobby Futrell are the backups.

Special Teams

Donald Igwebuike has done a fine job in his three years with the Bucs, and P Frank Garcia will be in his fifth season out of Arizona. Igwebuike missed one PAT in '86 and was 17-of-24 on field goals, with a long of 55. With the high turnover of personnel expected, the Bucs figure to have plenty of aggressive kick coverage.

MONDAY NIGHT WINNERS



Sept. 14 N.Y. Giants at Chicago
 Sept. 21 New England at N.Y. Jets
 Sept. 28 Denver at Cleveland
 Oct. 5 San Francisco at N.Y. Giants
 Oct. 12 L.A. Raiders at Denver
 Oct. 19 Washington at Dallas
 Oct. 26 L.A. Rams at Cleveland
 Nov. 2 N.Y. Giants at Dallas

Nov. 9 Seattle at N.Y. Jets
 Nov. 16 Chicago at Denver
 Nov. 23 L.A. Rams at Washington
 Nov. 30 L.A. Raiders at Seattle
 Dec. 7 N.Y. Jets at Miami
 Dec. 14 Chicago at San Francisco
 Dec. 21 Dallas at L.A. Rams
 Dec. 28 New England at Miami

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San Francisco 49ers

For the past five seasons, since the 49ers' 1981 NFL championship, it has been almost automatic that one pick San Francisco as a playoff team and possible Super Bowl contender during the preseason. 1987 is no exception.

While the 49ers have a number of aging veterans, they have no glaring weaknesses and still possess many star-quality players. And Bill Walsh is definitely one of the NFL's premier head coaches.

But in assessing San Francisco's chances for 1987, one must wonder, will they be the team that stormed down the stretch during '86 behind the remarkable comeback of Joe Montana, beating the Jets, Patriots and Rams in the last three weeks of the season and claiming the NFC West title when it seemed the best they could be playing for was a Wild-Card berth?

Or will this be the team that was massacred by the Giants in its first playoff game, physically overwhelmed and destroyed? Do the 49ers have too many veterans who may suddenly be a year past their primes, without enough fresh young bodies to step in and fill the voids.

Age appears to be a definite problem at running back and on the offensive line, and injuries have taken their toll on the receivers and defensive backs during the last year.

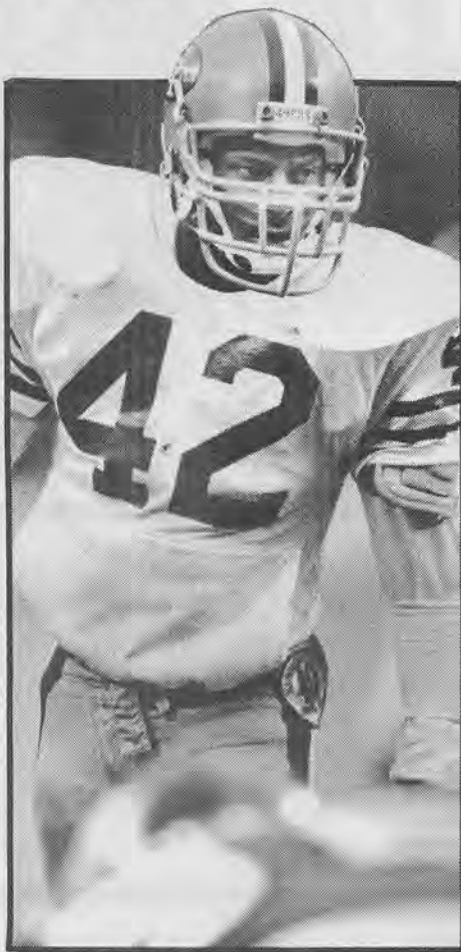
San Francisco enters the 1987 season with a lot of talent, but an awful lot of question marks as well.

Quarterback

With the incredible performance of Montana in '86, the excellent fill-in job done by Jeff Kemp, while Montana was out, and the acquisition of Steve Young, the 49ers are as well-fixed here as anyone in the league. With an offseason and full training camp under his belt, Montana should be 100 percent, and when he is, he's the most consistent winner in the league. The addition of the bomb to the 49ers repertoire in '86, could make Montana more dangerous than ever. Rumors of a rift between him and Walsh are exactly that, rumors.

Running Backs

Roger Craig is still the main man. After a slow start in '86 caused by nagging leg and groin injuries, Craig came on strong late in the season, and should be at his peak in '87. Wendell Tyler is probably retired for good now, but Joe Cribbs, like Craig, came on late in '86, after taking some time to learn the 49er system. Walsh will attempt to pair second draft pick Terrence Flagler with Craig at FB. Flagler will provide the speed and breakaway threat the Niners have lacked since Ty-



San Francisco DB Ronnie Lott

ler's knees went bad. Tom Rathman, Bill Ring and Carl Monroe and Derrick Harmon, both of whom spent parts of '86 on injured reserve, are all quality backups.

Receivers

Jerry Rice was the NFC's top wideout in 1986 and named the NFL's Offensive MVP by a number of organizations. He figures only to get better. His running mates could be a problem, though. Dwight Clark had offseason knee surgery and will not be ready for opening day. He might not make it back at all. Veterans Ken Margerum, Mike Wilson, and Monroe who can play WR, will compete for playing time along with second year man Derrick Crawford. No. 4 draft choice Paul Jokisch is a Dwight Clark clone, although probably half a step faster. TE Russ Francis had a good '86, but is 34 years old, and there's always a question with him of how bad he wants to play. Backup John Frank disappointed last year.

Offensive Line

Age is the biggest problem here. Only Parris is on the short side of 30. Cross seems stable enough at RG, but

ORT Fahnhorst is 35 and OLG Ayers is 34, and both seemed to have tailed off just a bit in '86. C Fred Quillan should be OK, but seems to have trouble with today's bigger, stronger NT's. Bruce Collie and Guy McIntyre have been groomed to step in for Fahnhorst and Ayers, but last year's rookie find Steve Wallace may figure ahead of both of them. For added insurance Walsh tabbed Harris Barton and Jeff Bregel, two outstanding prospects, with his first and third draft choices.

Defensive Line

Michael Carter is a force on the nose and Manu Tuiaasopo complements him nicely. Dwaine Board still gets it done DRE but his knees worry Walsh. DLE Jeff Stover played well in '86 and Larry Roberts had a fine rookie season last year. If Pete Kugler, John Hart and Kevin Fagan can make successful returns from the injured reserve list, the Niners DL is in great shape. But without at least one of them, they are awfully thin.

Linebackers

Walsh has expressed his concern openly about the linebacking situation. Keena Turner is San Francisco's best, but hasn't turned the big play as consistently the last year or two as he used to. LILB Riki Ellison is extremely strong against the run and Milt McColl and Jim Fahnhorst are complete players. Charles Haley was a tremendous surprise as a rookie, and the offseason acquisition of Keith Browner should help. Tom Cousineau (hamstring) and Todd Shell (quadripleg) finished '86 on injured reserve.

Defensive Backs

Ronnie Lott was the team's Defensive MVP and an All Pro in his first year at FS. Carlton Williamson excels at SS and rookies, Tim McKyer and Don Griffin ended up starting and performing admirably on the corners in '86. Nonetheless, a healthy Eric Wright in '87 would be a blessing. Tory Nixon, Tom Holmoe and Jeff Fuller are adequate depth, if they can stay healthy.

Special Teams

PK Ray Wersching slumped halfway through '86, but finished strong. Even in an "off-year", Wersching finished with 116 points, but at 37, Wersching is likely to be asked to beat back several challengers in training camp. Max Runager should be the punter again. Griffin did a fine job returning punts, but the Niners kickoff returns were weak. Look for Flagler to be handed that job. The 49ers have a number of good kick-cover people.

Los Angeles Rams

For the Rams, 1986 was more of the same thing. Yes, they made the playoffs, and hopes were high at the beginning of the post-season tournament. But, once again, hopes were quashed before they had a chance to establish themselves as a championship team.

Losses to Miami and San Francisco in the final two weeks of the season forced Los Angeles to enter the playoffs as a wild-card entrant. Much to the chagrin of head coach John Robinson, the losing trend continued when the Rams fell to the Washington Redskins in the opening round of the playoffs.

But as bad as the disappointment felt to Robinson and his crew, the 1986 season left the promise of an unlimited future in everyone's mind. The Rams believe they acquired what they always needed when they traded for QB Jim Everett from the Oilers.

Everett, who was drafted in 1986 by Houston, came at a high cost, but Robinson believes he will be able to lead the Rams to future glory.

And if Everett can improve on his somewhat inconsistent rookie year, it would take a great deal of pressure off the best running back in the game, Eric Dickerson.

Dickerson has always been the key producer for Los Angeles since his rookie year, and the acquisition of Everett eases his burden to a degree. The Rams now have a passing game that can allow them to come back from a deficit or put an opponent away.

Quarterbacks

Few quarterbacks have ever come into the league in such spectacular fashion as Everett. In Week 11, he came off the bench against New England to throw three touchdown passes in a game the Rams lost on a last-second Hail Mary pass. But even though the Rams lost, a new hope was established. Everett started the last five regular season games and the Wild-card game against Washington. Aside from the New England game, his most impressive performance came against Miami when he completed 18-of-31 passes for 251 yards and two touchdowns. His potential at the position has Robinson extremely excited.

Running Backs

As good as Everett may be, if he can ever get to the level established by Eric Dickerson, the Rams will most likely break new offensive records every week. Dickerson has been nothing but consistent and strong. He

led the NFL in rushing for the third time in his four-year career with 1,821 yards — sixth best in league history. He made the Pro Bowl for the third time while setting numerous Ram records, notably most yards in a career with 6,968, surpassing Lawrence McCutcheon, and most touchdowns scored in a career with 57, topping Elroy "Crazylegs" Hirsch. Joining Dickerson in the backfield was Barry Redden. He blocked very well for Dickerson and also managed to pick up 467 yards and catch 28 passes.

Receivers

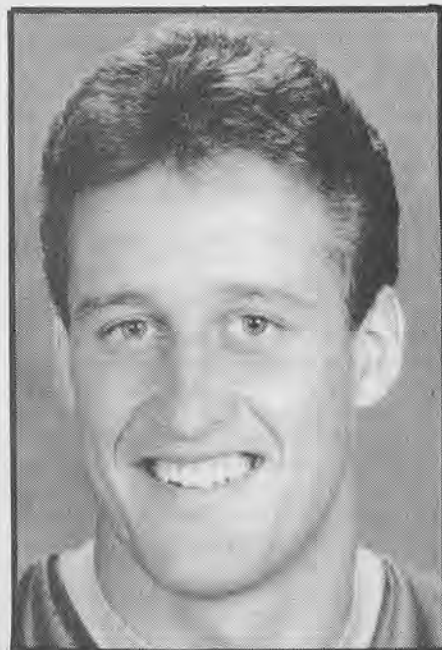
The receivers had an inconsistent year in 1986. Nobody seemed happy with their role as support to Dickerson and the running game, but the mood of the wideouts seemed to change when Everett made his impact in the starting lineup. The Rams started five different receivers last season — Ron Brown, Bobby Duckworth, Henry Ellard, Kevin House and Michael Young — and none were really able to establish the passing game. Ellard led the Rams in pass receiving with 34 catches for 447 yards despite missing the first seven weeks of the season as a hold-out. Ellard averaged five receptions a game once Everett took over. Brown played the entire season with a bone chip in his right wrist. He was the leading pass receiver until Week 12. House showed some potential after his acquisition from Tampa Bay, but he also lacked consistency.

Offensive Line

The Rams had three linemen selected to last year's Pro Bowl. OG Dennis Harrah made it for the fifth time, OT Jackie Slater made it for the third time and C Doug Smith also was named for the third time. In addition to the Pro Bowlers, the line also had consistent play from OT Irv Pankey. And while many of the big names are veterans, the Rams have quite a few young linemen. The best of the bunch is OG Tom Newberry, who had an excellent rookie season.

Defensive Line

The Rams suffered a major drop in production from their defensive front wall. They only sacked opposing quarterbacks 39 times in '86, as compared to 56 in 1985. DE Reggie Doss led the Ram linemen in tackles with 51, while veteran DE Gary Jeter led Los Angeles in sacks with eight. Besides Doss, NT Shawn Miller started all 16 games. His first six starts were at defensive end, and after that, he moved to nose tackle. Miller finished the season with 50 tackles and five



Ram QB Jim Everett

sacks.

Linebackers

Carl Ekern is the leader of the Rams' group of backers. An 11-year veteran, Ekern was named to his first Pro Bowl last year. He finished the season with 98 tackles after registering four seasons with 100 tackles or more. Other dependable linebackers include Mel Owens, Mark Jerue and Mike Wilcher. The group is not a flashy one, but they get the job done in steady, if unspectacular future.

Defensive backs

The shining point of the Ram defense has to be their backfield. CB's Jerry Gray and LeRoy Irvin had superb seasons, and Robinson can expect continued proficiency from this area. Gray was pushed into the starting lineup after Gary Green suddenly retired during training camp. He made the transition from safety to cornerback very smoothly. Irvin had six interceptions and consistently did the job against top receivers.

Special Teams

Mike Lansford continued his dependable kicking last year. He had game winning field goals against San Francisco from 18 yards, and he beat the Chicago Bears with a 50-yarder as time ran out. P Dale Hatcher was in the bottom half of NFL kickers. He averaged only 38.6 yards on 97 punts, but did have 26 inside the opponent's 20-yard line.

New Orleans Saints

For the New Orleans Saints, 1987 could finally be the year. A Super Bowl they can play in rather than host? No, not likely. A playoff berth, then? It could happen, but they're probably still a year away. What then?

The Saints are an improving football team. Most insiders call them an up-and-comer. And 1987 just might be the year, the Saints' 21st in the NFL, that they have their first-ever winning season.

That's right! Through 20 years, the Saints have never posted a winning record. In fact, only twice, in 1979 and 1983, have the Saints managed to finish at .500. But almost all of that was before Jim Finks came to town.

Finks took over the organization in 1986. This is the same Jim Finks who built the Vikings of the late '60's and '70's, and the great majority of the current Chicago Bears' team. One thing is a given when Jim Finks comes to town. He will win.

His first significant move in New Orleans was to hire Jim Mora, one of the most sought-after young coaches in the game. His first draft produced Rueben Mayes, the NFL's Rookie of the Year. And he is well on the way to convincing the organization, from top to bottom, that they are winners.

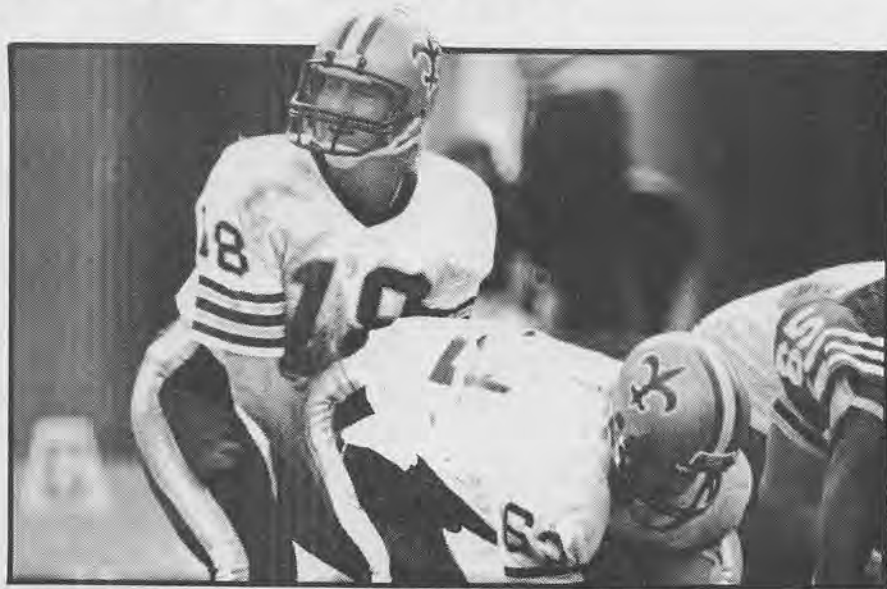
For Mora's part, he has wasted few words and made no promises, but he has earned the complete respect of his players and definitely has them headed in the right direction.

Quarterbacks

Dave Wilson is No. 1 on the depth chart, while Bobby Hebert is No. 1 on the payroll. It is unclear whether either will turn out to be the quarterback of the future, but it does seem clear that both will be given every opportunity to establish themselves while Finks and Mora concentrate on strengthening the rest of the ballclub. Neither was particularly impressive in '86, Wilson hitting 55.3% of his passes for 2,353 yards, 10 TD's, and 17 interceptions, while Hebert was 41-of-79 for 498, two TD's, and eight interceptions. Hebert will probably get a very long look in training camp.

Running Backs

Mayes took the league by surprise, and by storm, in '86, finishing with 1,353 yards and eight TD's. Dalton Hilliard, another '86 draft choice, complements Mayes nicely as his backup. Buford Jordan, a former USFLer, is a fine runner at fullback but lacks great blocking ability. The Saints would like a pure fullback. Wayne Wilson re-joined the team late in '86 to back up Jordan after having been traded to the Vikings, waived, and then re-signed by the Saints. Fifth back Mel Gray is



Dave Wilson is still trying to prove himself

a tremendous open-field runner, as evidenced by his success returning kick-offs.

Receivers

Mike Jones was the leading wideout in '86 with 48 catches for 625 yards. Eric Martin started across from Jones and was the only receiver to catch a pass in every game, but he also had the most drops. Rookie Kelvin Edwards was a mystery in '86. He is the most talented receiver on the club but didn't or couldn't produce. Eugene Goodlow had a poor '86 and will have trouble making the team in '87. New Orleans used its second draft choice to tab Lonzell Hill, one of the top five wide receivers in the draft. TE's Hoby Brenner and John Tice are sure-handed and excellent blockers but slow.

Offensive Line

OT's Jim Dombrowski and Stan Brock, OG's Brad Edelman and Chuck Commiskey, and C Steve Korte make up a fine, young offensive line that will improve as they grow together. When Dombrowski and Edelman went down with injuries in '86, Joel Hilgenberg and Bill Contz filled in excellently. Finks specializes in building offensive lines, and, while this group looks promising, he loves to draft big linemen in the first round.

Defensive Line

The Saints have some talent but could use more. DLE Bruce Clark is a premier pass rusher who also had a fine '86 against the run. NT Tony Elliott was inconsistent at times but actually surpassed Mora's expectations. RE Jim Wilks is steady against the run, and designated pass rushers Frank Warren and James Geathers have improved rapidly. The Saints added Brigham Young All-America Shawn

Knight with their first draft pick, so this unit appears set.

Linebackers

Rickey Jackson is one of the league's premier outside linebackers, and he rebounded nicely in '86 after a slightly off-year in '85. Sam Mills and Vaughan Johnson followed Mora from the USFL and have played impressively. Alvin Toles and James Haynes are steady if not spectacular, and youngsters Jack Del Rio and Pat Swilling have shown a great deal of promise.

Defensive Backs

Dave Waymer is coming off the finest year of his career, tying for second in the NFL with nine interceptions and intimidating opponents' receivers from his LCB spot. On the other corner, Johnnie Poe has been extremely inconsistent and may not have the speed required for regular man-to-man cover duties. FS Frank Watelet is steady, and SS Antonio Gibson is another one of Mora's ex-USFLers whom his coach called the best-kept secret in the league. He played well enough in his first season in the NFL, but Mora feels he can do better. Backups Dana McLemore, Bobby Johnson and Brett Maxie are average at best.

Special Teams

This is a Saint strength with Morten Andersen accepted as the NFL's best placekicker and Gray among the league's most dangerous kickoff-return men. Punter Brian Hansen, was third in the NFC in net average, but only 11th in punts downed inside the 20-yard line. Kick coverage was also excellent for New Orleans in '86. The Saints could use a punt-return specialist, but otherwise special teams are excellent. Look for rookie WR Hill to be tried on punts.

Atlanta Falcons

Perhaps in his third stint as a head coach, Marion Campbell will finally enjoy success, piloting an Atlanta team that improved considerably in '86, especially the defensive unit that under his guidance improved from 28th to seventh in total yards allowed.

The Falcons' 7-8-1 record in '86 was their best since 1982, but they must do some fine tuning at wide receiver, which lacks size and featured only one consistent performer (Charlie Brown); in the backfield, where Pro Bowler Gerald Riggs is starting to show the effects of overuse; and on the defensive line, where an already good unit could become great with the addition of a legitimate pass rusher.

Quarterbacks

There's no doubt No. 1 draft choice Chris Miller of Oregon is clearly the Falc QB of the future, but it's unlikely Campbell will rush Miller into action as the coach did with Steve Bartkowski in his previous reign as Atlanta head coach. What that probably means is another chance for free agent David Archer, who really fell apart after a blazing start in '86. Vet Turk Schonert still throws too many interceptions.

Running Backs

Ranked third in the league in rush-

ing yards per game in '86, the Falcs mainly rely on Riggs, who is still productive (343 carries for 1,327 yards in '86), but not nearly as explosive (an ordinary 3.9 average per carry). Campbell would love to junk the one-back offense used in Atlanta last year, and the key to expanding the Falcs' running attack could be this year's No. 2 pick Kenny Flowers, who, like Miller, is expected to be worked in gradually. Dependable Cliff Austin, courageous William Andrews and versatile mini-mite Sylvester Stamps (7.3 rushing average on 30 carries) spearhead an excellent reserve crew.

Receivers

Brown moved back "Downtown" with his old-time flair in '86, catching 63 passes for 918 yards, but, despite some good talent and speed, the rest of the unit needs some work. Soph Floyd Dixon can turn it upfield and enjoyed some big numbers, especially early in the season, but both he and Brown suffered due to Archer's inability to get them the ball. Healthy years from Anthony Allen (knee), '85 sensation Stacey Bailey (hamstring) and vet White Shoes Johnson (arch) could really help. TE Arthur Cox and H-back Ken Whisenhunt aren't asked to do

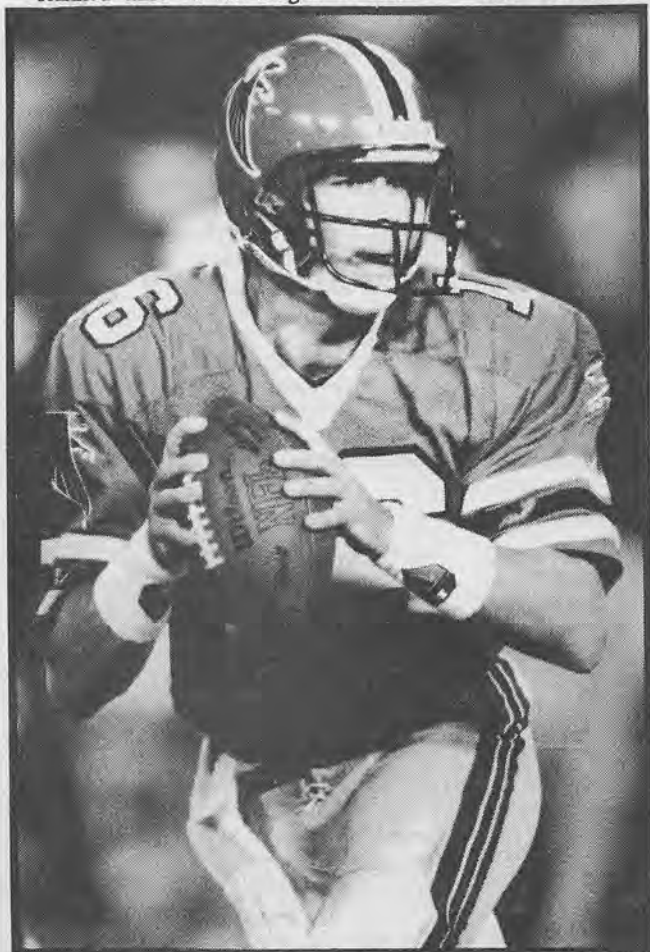
much more than block, but that could change if a new signal-calling situation develops.

Offensive Line

Very solid, especially Pro Bowl ORG Bill Fralic, who played some tackle last year in addition to guard. The return of vet ORT Brett Miller from a knee injury that sidelined him the second half of '86 will fortify a unit that also features C Wayne Radloff, a durable former All-USFL performer; OLG John Scully, who hurt a leg late in '86 but should be ready; and five-time Pro Bowl OLT Mike Kenn. Jamie Dukes and Glen Howe are key backups.

Defensive Line

Tremendously improved, but as their 25th-place ranking in QB sack percentage indicates, more pressure on opposing passers is needed. DRE Rick Bryan is productive (club leader with seven sacks and three forced fumbles) and tough as nails, which was proven when he played most of last year with a cracked bone in his leg. Another former No. 1, NT Tony Casillas, improved steadily but was removed in passing situations, while DLE Mike Gann is quietly developing into one of (continued on page 64)



David Archer may get another chance

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Giants (continued from page 49)

are solid at the guards, and center. Bill Roberts is a dependable backup. As a unit they are much stronger on run blocking than pass protection.

Defensive Line

While DLE George Martin and NT Jim Burt both had excellent years in '86, look for sophomores Eric Dorsey and Erik Howard to push them for their starting jobs. Leonard Marshall has emerged as an All Pro at DRE.

Linebackers

While not a pure linebacker, Lawrence Taylor is the most dominant defensive player in football, RILB

Harry Carson is a perennial All Pro, and LOLB Carl Banks is probably better than both of them. Gary Reasons is solid on the inside with Carson, and Byron Hunt and Pepper Johnson provide excellent depth.

Defensive Backs

FS Terry Kinard is the Giants' lone stickout defensive back and he finished '86 on injured reserve. Super Bowl starters Elvis Patterson and Perry Williams at CB and Herb Welch and Kenny Hill at S are all adequate at best. Without the tremendous pressure they get from the Giants' front seven, they would be in real trouble. '86

rookies Mark Collins and Greg Lasker, and this year's second-round pick, Adrian White, could all end up pushing for starting jobs.

Special Teams

Giants were surprisingly weak here in '86 for a Super Bowl team. They finished 24th in the league in punt return average, 27th in kickoffs, 19th covering punts and 14th going down on kickoffs. Placekicking was a problem early in '86, until Raul Allegre emerged to hit 24-of-32 field goals and all of his 33 PAT's. Sean Lendetta was the NFL's best punter in 1986.

Cowboys (continued from page 51)

Cowboys hoped for when they drafted them, and C Tom Rafferty will be 34 this year. Dallas figures to start Rafferty, Pozderac, Crawford Ker at ORG, Glen Titensor at OLG and Mark Tuinei, a fifth year free agent from Hawaii, at OLT.

Defensive Line

"Too Tall" Jones, 36, John Dutton, 36, and White, 34, sum up Dallas' DL woes pretty well. Jim Jeffcoat has become good but not great at DRE, and Kevin Brooks has been unable to push Jones, Dutton or White since being drafted on the first round in '85. Don Smerek is dependable, but a journeyman. Top draft pick Danny

Noonan to could dislodge Jones.

Linebackers

This has been a Cowboy sore spot for three or four years and it just doesn't seem to get any better. Mike Hegman is solid but unspectacular at LLB and Jeff Rohrer is the same, plus a step slow, at RLB. MLB Eugene Lockhart still shows flashes of greatness, and makes some incredible plays. Incredibly great, and incredibly dumb. OLB Jesse Penn may become a great one, but is starting to remind a lot of people of Lockhart.

Defensive Backs

FS Michael Downs had the best year of his career in '86. LCB Everson

Walls slipped slightly but is still a good one. RCB Ron Fellows is adequate, and SS Bill Bates is flat out too slow to be a starter or anything but a situation and special teams player.

Special Teams

After 10 years, Rafael Septien has his walking papers, and the PK job is up for grabs. P Mike Saxon was seventh in the NFC in net average in '86, but led the NFL in punts inside the 20 with 28. For some reason, Dallas finished last year eighth returning kickoffs but 27th bringing back punts, and eighth covering punts, but only 21st covering kickoffs.

Vikings (continued from page 55)

Eating" front four. There was improvement here in '86, but more is needed in '87. Keith Millard has established himself as one of the better pass rushing DT's in the NFL, and Tim Newton is solid but unspectacular next to him. 1985 first-round draft choice Chris Doleman was moved from LB to RDE last year with less than overwhelming results, but enough results to keep '86 first-rounder Gerald Robinson from beating him out. Doug Martin is solid but not as dominant as he was in '82 and '83. Bottom line is Vikings need another pass rusher.

The evaluation of this group depends a good deal on whether Doleman rejoins it or not. '86 starters Chris Martin, Scott Studwell and David Howard are better than average football players. Backups Jeff Schuh, Jesse Solomon and Walker Lee Ashley don't figure to push them for starting jobs. But many scouts still feel Doleman can be an impact LB, and second-round draft choice Ray Berry out of Baylor may have been a steal.

Defensive Backs

S Joey Browner is a Pro Bowler who keeps getting better and Issiac

Holt came on strong at LCB. But Holt and RCB Carl Lee still have a tendency to get beat for the big mistake and John Harris has clearly lost a step at FS. Backups Willie Teal, Rufus Bess and David Evans are not the answers. Two new DB's would be welcomed.

Special Teams

P Greg Coleman is one of the NFC's most dependable when healthy, but he missed a few games in '86. Chuck Nelson had a fine '86 at PK. Vikes could use a punt returner, and kick coverage units are below average.

Falcons (Continued from Page 63)

the best at his position heading into his third year. Former first-rounder Mike Pitts, Andrew Provence and former Eagle Dennis "Big Foot" Harrison are also valuable up-front contributors.

Linebackers

If '86 No. 1 pick Tim Green can rebound from a subpar rookie campaign due to holdout and injury problems, this no-name outfit could begin to gain a little more notoriety, although more firepower from the outside slots is a must (neither of the outside starters, former Eagles Reggie Wilkes and Joel Williams, had a sack last year). Green starts the season as a sub behind hard-working, unappreciated LILB Buddy Curry, the team's tackle leader

for the seventh straight year. Joining Curry inside is beefed-up John Rade, coming off his best season. Free agent Joe Costello was a real find last year that can be expected to see more action.

Defensive Backs

A solid but unspectacular unit with decent depth. After the unit's anchor, LCB Bobby Butler, went out with a broken leg in '86, aggressive David Croudip performed adequately in his place. Butler is expected to regain his starting spot, with the other corner expected to be manned by Scott Case, who had a superb season after switching from the safety spot (41 passes defended in '86, an unofficial club

record). Starting safeties Bret Clark (interception leader with five) and Robert Moore are good-looking sophomores, with Wendell Cason, James Britt, Jimmy Turner and Dennis Woodberry offering fine depth along with Croudip.

Special Teams

Mick Luckhurst, who had back surgery in January, is expected to have the upper hand as the Falcons' placekicker over ex-Giant Ali Haji-Sheikh, who replaced him 11 games into the '87 campaign. Either one is reliable. Third-year P Rick Donnelly (fifth in '86 with a personal-best 43.6 average) is also solid, but the Falcons' return and coverage units are way below the normal standards for this team.

1987 NFL DRAFT — AFC

BUFFALO BILLS

- Choice to Houston
- LB Shane Conlan, Penn State (from Houston)
- DB Nate Odomes, Wisconsin (from T. Bay)
- DB Roland Mitchell, Texas Tech
- LB David Brandon, Memphis State
- RB Jamie Mueller, Benedictine (from San Francisco)
- Choice to Tampa Bay
- DE Leon Seals, Jackson State (from Wash.)
- Choice to Washington
- Choice to Washington
- RB Kerry Porter, Washington State
- Choice to Indianapolis
- DE Bruce Mesner, Maryland (from Raiders)
- TE Keith McKeller, Jacksonville State
- Choice to L.A. Raiders
- OT Howard Ballard, Alabama A&M
- DT Joe McGrail, Delaware

CINCINNATI BENGALS

- DE Jason Buck, Brigham Young
- DB Eric Thomas, Tulane
- DB Leonard Bell, Indiana
- DE Skip McClendon, Arizona State (from Sea.)
- TE Jim Riggs, Clemson
- RB Marc Logan, Kentucky
- P Greg Horne, Arkansas (from Denver)
- DB Sonny Gordon, Ohio State
- OG Chris Thatcher, Lafayette
- DB Solomon Wilcoats, Colorado
- LB Craig Raddatz, Wisconsin
- RB David McCluskey, Georgia
- OT Jim Warne, Arizona State
- RB John Holifield, West Virginia

CLEVELAND BROWNS

- LB Mike Junkin, Duke (from San Diego)
- Choice to San Diego
- C Gregg Rakoczy, Miami, Fla. (from S. Diego)
- Choice to San Diego
- RB Tim Manoa, Penn State
- PK Jeff Jaeger, Washington (from Chicago through L.A. Rams)
- Choice to L.A. Rams
- Choice to L.A. Rams
- DB Stephen Braggs, Texas
- Choice to Green Bay
- LB Steve Bullitt, Texas A&M
- Choice to Indianapolis
- C Frank Winters, Western Illinois
- DB Larry Brewton, Temple
- Choice to L.A. Rams

DENVER BRONCOS

- WR Ricky Nattiel, Florida
- Choice to N.Y. Giants
- LB Michael Brooks, Louisiana State
- LB Marc Munford, Nebraska
- Choice to Cincinnati
- RB Warren Marshall, James Madison
- TE Wilbur Strozier, Georgia
- OG Dan Morgan, Penn State
- DB Bruce Plummer, Mississippi State
- LB Rafe Wilkinson, Richmond
- DE Steve Roberts, Washington (from Rams)
- RB Tommy Neal, Maryland
- DB Tyrone Braxton, North Dakota State

HOUSTON OILERS

- RB Alonzo Highsmith, Miami (Fla.) (from Buff.)
- Choice to Buffalo
- WR Haywood Jeffries, North Carolina State (from L.A. Rams)
- Choice to Kansas City
- LB Walter Johnson, Louisiana Tech (from Kansas City)
- QB Cody Carlson, Baylor
- Choice to L.A. Rams
- LB Mark Dusbabek, Minnesota (from K. City)
- Choice to Chicago through Washington and L.A. Raiders
- RB Spencer Tillman, Oklahoma (from Rams)
- LB Al Smith, Utah State
- LB Toby Caston, Louisiana State (from Kansas City)
- DT Robert Banks, Notre Dame
- WR James Michel, Washington State

- C Wes Neighbors, Alabama
- WR Curtis Duncan, Northwestern
- OG John Davis, Georgia Tech
- RB Ira Valentine, Texas A&M

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

- LB Cornelius Bennett, Alabama
- Choice to Washington
- OT Chris Gambol, Iowa
- OT Randy Dixon, Pittsburgh
- WR Roy Banks, Eastern Illinois
- DB Freddie Robinson, Alabama
- WR Mark Bellini, Brigham Young
- Choice to Tampa Bay
- DB Chuckie Miller, UCLA (from Buffalo)
- Choice to N.Y. Giants
- LB Bob Ontko, Penn State (from Cleveland)
- DB Chris Goode, Alabama
- DE Jim Reynosa, Arizona State
- RB David Adams, Arizona

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

- RB Paul Palmer, Temple
- RB Christian Okoye, Azusa Pacific (from Houston)
- Choice to Houston
- LB Todd Howard, Texas A&M
- Choice to Houston
- WR Kitrick Taylor, Washington State (from Minnesota through Miami)
- Choice to Miami
- Choice to Houston
- QB Doug Hudson, Nicholls State
- Choice to Miami
- RB Michael Clemons, William & Mary (from New England)
- DE Randy Watts, Catawba
- RB James Evans, Southern U.
- WR Craig Richardson, Eastern Washington
- LB Bruce Holmes, Minnesota

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS

- OT John Clay, Missouri
- Choice to N.Y. Jets
- OT Bruce Wilkerson, Tennessee (from Washington)
- Choice to Green Bay
- RB Steve Smith, Penn State (from Washington through New England)
- Choice to New England
- QB Steve Beuerlein, Notre Dame (from Chi.)
- Choice to St. Louis
- Choice to Chicago
- RB Bo Jackson, Auburn
- Choice to Buffalo
- TE Scott Eccles, Eastern New Mexico
- DB Rob Harrison, Cal State-Sacramento (from Buffalo)
- OG John Geseke, Cal State-Sacramento
- LB Jim Ellis, Boise State (from San Francisco through Buffalo)
- RB Chris McLemore, Arizona (from Philadelphia through San Francisco)
- TE Mario Perry, Mississippi
- Choice to N.Y. Giants

MIAMI DOLPHINS

- Choice to Minnesota
- DE John Bosa, Boston College (from Minn.)
- LB Rick Graf, Wisconsin
- WR Scott Schwedes, Syracuse (from N.Y. Giants through St. Louis)
- Choice to St. Louis
- RB Troy Stradford, Boston College
- Choice to St. Louis
- OT Chris Conlin, Penn St. (from Kansas City)
- LB Lance Sellers, Boise State
- RB Tom Brown, Pittsburgh
- TE Joel Williams, Notre Dame
- OT Mark Dennis, Illinois (from Kansas City)
- LB Tim Pidgeon, Syracuse
- DB Bobby Taylor, Wisconsin
- NT Terrence Mann, Southern Methodist
- QB Kirk Karsatos, Ohio State

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

- OT Bruce Armstrong, Louisville
- Choice to Tampa Bay

- RB Bob Perryman, Michigan
- QB Rich Gannon, Delaware (from L.A. Raiders)
- DB Derrick Beasley, Winston-Salem (from N.Y. Jets through L.A. Raiders)
- LB Tim Jordan, Wisconsin
- OT Danny Villa, Arizona State (from T. Bay)
- DE Tom Gibson, Northern Arizona (from San Diego)
- Choice to Tampa Bay
- WR Gene Taylor, Fresno State
- Choice to Tampa Bay
- Choice to Kansas City
- Choice to Tampa Bay
- Choice to San Francisco through Buffalo
- PK Carlos Reveiz, Tennessee
- RB Elgin Davis, Central Florida

NEW YORK JETS

- RB Roger Vick, Texas A&M
- LB Alex Gordon, Cincinnati (from L.A. Raiders)
- Choice to Washington through L.A. Raiders
- LB Onzy Elam, Tennessee State
- Choice to New England through L.A. Raiders
- DB Kirby Jackson, Mississippi State
- WR Tracy Martin, North Dakota
- NT Gerald Nichols, Florida State
- RB Eddie Hunter, Virginia Tech (from Tampa Bay)
- P Mike Rice, Montana
- DE Ron McLean, Fullerton State
- DB Sid Lewis, Penn State
- LB Kirk Timmer, Montana State
- QB Bill Ransdell, Kentucky

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

- DB Rod Woodson, Purdue
- DB Delton Hall, Clemson
- WR Charles Lockett, Long Beach State
- DB Thomas Everett, Baylor
- LB Hardy Nickerson, California
- NT Tim Johnson, Penn State (from Tampa Bay)
- LB Greg Lloyd, Fort Valley State
- TE Chris Kelley, Akron
- DE Charles Buchanan, Tennessee State
- WR Joey Clinkscales, Tennessee
- RB Merril Hoge, Idaho State
- C Paul Oswald, Kansas
- TE Theo Young, Arkansas

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

- Choice to Cleveland
- TE Rod Bernstine, Texas A&M (from Cleveland)
- Choice to Cleveland
- DB Louis Brock, Southern Cal (from Cleveland)
- DE Karl Wilson, Louisiana State
- QB Mark Vlasik, Iowa
- DB Nelson Jones, North Carolina State (from Green Bay)
- Choice to New England
- Choice to Tampa Bay
- WR Jamie Holland, Ohio State
- OT Joe MacEskey, Texas-El Paso
- LB Ron Brown, Southern Cal (from Philadelphia)
- RB Thomas Wilcher, Michigan
- DB Anthony Anderson, Grambling
- C Joe Goebel, UCLA
- RB Marcus Greenwood, UCLA

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

- LB Tony Woods, Pittsburgh
- LB Dave Wyman, Stanford
- Choice to Cincinnati
- DB Mark Moore, Oklahoma State
- RB Tommie Agee, Auburn (from Detroit)
- P Ruben Rodriguez, Arizona
- Choice to Philadelphia
- NT Roland Barbay, Louisiana State (from Minnesota)
- TE Derek Tennell, UCLA
- QB Sammy Garza, Texas-El Paso
- LB M.L. Johnson, Hawaii
- WR Louis Clark, Mississippi State
- RB Darryl Oliver, Miami (Fla.)
- DE Wes Dove, Syracuse (from Green Bay)
- RB Tony Burse, Middle Tennessee

1987 NFL DRAFT — NFC

ATLANTA FALCONS

1. QB Chris Miller, Oregon
2. RB Kenny Flowers, Clemson (from Green Bay)
3. Choice to Green Bay
3. Choice to Green Bay
4. OT Ralph Van Dyke, Southern Illinois
5. DE Mark Mraz, Utah State
6. OG Paul Kiser, Wake Forest
7. LB Michael Reid, Wisconsin
8. LB Curtis Taliaferro, Virginia Tech
9. DB Terrence Anthony, Iowa State
10. TE Jerry Reese, Illinois
11. DB Elbert Shelley, Arkansas State
12. RB Larry Emery, Wisconsin

CHICAGO BEARS

1. QB Jim Harbaugh, Michigan
2. WR Ron Morris, Southern Methodist
3. Choice to Cleveland through L.A. Rams
4. DE Sean Smith, Grambling (from L.A. Rams)
4. Choice to L.A. Raiders
5. DE Steve Bryan, Oklahoma (from Houston through Washington and L.A. Raiders)
5. LB Will Johnson, Northeast Louisiana
6. C John Adickes, Baylor (from L.A. Raiders)
6. Choice to L.A. Raiders
7. OT Archie Harris, William & Mary
8. LB Paul Miglizzo, Oklahoma
9. RB Lakei Heimuli, Brigham Young
10. DT Dick Chapura, Missouri
11. RB Tim Jessie, Auburn
12. DB Eric Jeffries, Texas

DALLAS COWBOYS

1. DT Danny Noonan, Nebraska
2. DB Ron Francis, Baylor
3. OG Jeff Zimmerman, Florida
4. WR Kelvin Martin, Boston College
5. WR Everett Gay, Texas
6. OG Joe Onosai, Hawaii
7. QB Kevin Sweeney, Fresno State
8. OT Kevin Gogan, Washington
9. RB Alvin Blount, Maryland
10. LB Dale Jones, Tennessee
11. PK Jeff Ward, Texas
12. LB Scott Armstrong, Florida

DETROIT LIONS

1. DE Reggie Rogers, Washington
2. Choice to Tampa Bay through Houston and Buffalo
3. NT Jerry Ball, Southern Methodist
4. DB Garland Rivers, Michigan
5. Choice to Seattle
6. LB Danny Lockett, Arizona
7. DT Dan Saleaumua, Arizona State
8. LB Dennis Gibson, Iowa State
9. RB Rick Calhoun, Fullerton State
10. WR Raynard Brown, South Carolina
11. TE Brian Siverling, Penn State
12. WR Gary Lee, Georgia Tech

GREEN BAY PACKERS

1. RB Brent Fullwood, Auburn
2. Choice to Atlanta
2. LB Johnny Holland, Texas A&M (from Atlanta)
3. OT Dave Croston, Iowa
3. LB Scott Stephen, Arizona State (from Atlanta)
4. WR Frankie Neal, Fort Hays (from Raiders)
4. DT Lorenzo Freeman, Pittsburgh
5. Choice to San Diego
6. WR Willie Marshall, Temple
7. DT Tony Leiker, Stanford
7. P Bill Smith, Mississippi (from Cleveland)
8. DT Jeff Drost, Iowa
9. OG Gregg Harris, Wake Forest
10. QB Don Majkowski, Virginia
11. WR Patrick Scott, Grambling
12. Choice to Seattle
12. DB Norman Jefferson, Louisiana State (from N.Y. Giants)

LOS ANGELES RAMS

1. Choice to Houston
2. DE Donald Evans, Winston-Salem
3. DB Cliff Hicks, Oregon
4. NT Doug Bartlett, Northern Illinois (from Hous.)

4. Choice to Chicago
4. LB Larry Kelm, Texas A&M (from Cleveland)
5. Choice to Houston
5. DT Scott Mersereau, Southern Connecticut (from Cleveland)
6. Choice to N.Y. Giants
6. TE Jon Embree, Colorado (from Chicago)
7. Choice exercised in 1986 Supplemental Draft by Philadelphia for RB Charles Crawford
8. DB Michael Stewart, Fresno State
9. RB Tracy Ham, Georgia Southern
10. LB David Smith, Northern Arizona
11. Choice to Denver
12. RB Alonzo Williams, Mesa, Col.
12. DE Fred Stokes, Georgia Southern (from Cleveland)

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

1. RB D.J. Dozier, Penn State (from Miami)
1. Choice to Miami
2. LB Ray Berry, Baylor
3. NT Henry Thomas, Louisiana State
4. DB Reggie Rutland, Georgia Tech
5. Choice to Kansas City through Miami
6. WR Greg Richardson, Alabama
7. Choice to Seattle
8. RB Rick Fenney, Washington
9. DB Leonard Jones, Texas Tech
10. OT Bob Riley, Indiana
11. QB Brent Pease, Montana
12. DT Keith Williams, Florida

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

1. DT Shawn Knight, Brigham Young
2. WR Lonzell Hill, Washington
3. DB Mike Adams, Arkansas State
4. OG Steve Trapilo, Boston College
5. DB Milton Mack, Alcorn State
6. WR Thomas Henley, Stanford
7. DB Gene Atkins, Florida A&M
8. DB Toi Cook, Stanford
9. LB Scott Leach, Ohio State
10. WR Robert Clark, North Carolina Central
11. TE Arthur Wells, Grambling
12. OG Tyrone Sorrells, Georgia Tech

NEW YORK GIANTS

1. WR Mark Ingram, Michigan State
2. DB Adrian White, Florida (from Denver)
2. Choice to Miami through St. Louis
3. WR Stephen Baker, Fresno State
4. WR Odessa Turner, Northwest Louisiana
5. OG Paul O'Connor, Miami (Fla.)
6. RB Tim Richardson, Pacific (from L.A. Rams)
6. OT Doug Riesenber, California
7. Choice to St. Louis
8. TE Rod Jones, Washington
9. OG Stan Parker, Nebraska (from Indianapolis)
9. RB Dana Wright, Findlay
10. LB Chuck Faucette, Maryland
11. QB Dave Walter, Michigan Tech
12. DT Bill Berthussen, Iowa State (from Raiders)
12. RB Chad Stark, North Dakota State (from San Francisco through L.A. Raiders)
12. Choice to Green Bay

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

1. DT Jerome Brown, Miami (Fla.)
2. Choice to San Francisco
3. C Ben Tamburello, Auburn
4. LB Byron Evans, Arizona
5. OG David Alexander, Tulsa
6. LB Ron Moten, Florida
6. DT Chris Pike, Tulsa (from Seattle)
7. OT Brian Williams, Central Michigan
7. Choice from L.A. Rams exercised in 1986 Supplemental Draft for RB Charles Crawford
8. Choice to San Diego
9. QB Ken Lambiotte, William & Mary
10. DT Paul Carberry, Oregon State
11. Choice to L.A. Raiders through San Francisco
12. RB Bobby Morse, Michigan State

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

1. QB Kelly Stouffer, Colorado State
2. DB Tim McDonald, Southern Cal
3. TE Robert Awalt, San Diego State

3. DT Colin Scotts, Hawaii (from Miami)
4. DT Rod Saddler, Texas A&M
5. RB George Swann, Miami (Ohio)
5. P John Bruno, Penn State (from Miami)
5. LB Ilya Jarostchuk, New Hampshire (from L.A. Raiders)
6. DT Mark Garalczyk, Western Michigan
7. DB Tim Peoples, Washington
7. TE William Harris, Bishop, Tex. (from N.Y. Giants)
8. DT Steve Alvord, Washington
9. LB Wayne Davis, Alabama
10. DB Charles Wright, Tulsa
11. OG Todd Peat, Northern Illinois
12. Choice to Tampa Bay

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

1. OT Harris Barton, North Carolina
1. RB Terrence Flagler, Clemson (from Washington)
2. OG Jeff Bregel, Southern Cal (from Philadelphia)
2. Choice to Tampa Bay
3. Choice to Buffalo
4. Choice to Tampa Bay
5. WR Paul Jokisch, Michigan
6. LB Bob White, Penn State
7. PK Steve De Line, Colorado State
8. LB Dave Grayson, Fresno State
9. DB Jonathan Shelley, Mississippi
10. Choice to L.A. Raiders through Buffalo
10. QB John Paye, Stanford (from New England through L.A. Raiders)
11. WR Calvin Nicholas, Grambling
12. Choice to N.Y. Giants through L.A. Raiders

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

1. QB Vinny Testaverde, Miami (Fla.)
2. Choice to Buffalo
2. DB Ricky Reynolds, Washington State (from Detroit through Houston and Buffalo)
2. LB Winston Moss, Miami (Fla.) (from San Francisco)
2. RB Don Smith, Mississippi State (from New England)
3. WR Mark Carrier, Nicholls State
4. LB Don Graham, Penn State
4. TE Ron Hall, Hawaii (from Buffalo)
4. WR Bruce Hill, Arizona State (from San Francisco)
5. Choice to New England
5. LB Henry Rolling, Nevada-Reno (from New England)
5. DB Tony Mayes, Kentucky (from Washington)
6. Choice to Pittsburgh
6. RB Steve Bartalo, Colorado State (from San Diego)
7. NT Curt Jarvis, Alabama
7. DE Harry Swayne, Rutgers (from New England)
8. Choice to N.Y. Jets
8. NT Stan Mataele, Arizona (from Indianapolis)
9. RB Joe Armentrout, Wisconsin
9. P Greg Davis, The Citadel (from New England)
10. OG Mike Simmonds, Indiana State
11. RB Reggie Taylor, Cincinnati
12. DT Scott Cooper, Kearney State
12. QB Mike Shula, Alabama (from St. Louis)

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

1. Choice to San Francisco
2. DB Brian Davis, Nebraska (from Indianapolis)
2. OT Wally Kleine, Notre Dame (from N.Y. Jets through L.A. Raiders)
2. Choice to L.A. Raiders
3. Choice to L.A. Raiders through New England
4. Choice to Buffalo
5. RB Timmy Smith, Texas Tech (from Buffalo)
5. Choice to Tampa Bay
6. DB Steve Gage, Tulsa (from Buffalo)
6. OT Ed Simmons, Eastern Washington
7. DB Johnny Thomas, Baylor
8. DB Clarence Vaughn, Northern Illinois
9. RB Alfred Jenkins, Arizona
10. WR Ted Wilson, Central Florida
11. WR Laron Brown, Texas
12. C Ray Hitchcock, Minnesota

1987 NFL Schedule by Team

ATLANTA FALCONS

Sept. 13 at Tampa Bay
Sept. 20 WASHINGTON
Sept. 27 at New Orleans
Oct. 4 PITTSBURGH
Oct. 11 at San Francisco
Oct. 18 L.A. RAMS
Oct. 25 at Houston
Nov. 1 NEW ORLEANS
Nov. 8 at Cleveland
Nov. 15 CINCINNATI
Nov. 22 at Minnesota
Nov. 29 ST. LOUIS
Dec. 6 at Dallas
Dec. 13 at L.A. Rams
Dec. 20 SAN FRANCISCO
Dec. 27 DETROIT

DALLAS COWBOYS

Sept. 13 at St. Louis
Sept. 20 at N.Y. Giants
Sept. 27 BUFFALO
Oct. 4 at N.Y. Jets
Oct. 11 PHILADELPHIA
Oct. 19 WASHINGTON (Mon.)
Oct. 25 at Philadelphia
Nov. 2 N.Y. GIANTS (Mon.)
Nov. 8 at Detroit
Nov. 15 at New England
Nov. 22 MIAMI
Nov. 26 MINNESOTA (Thanks.)
Dec. 6 ATLANTA
Dec. 13 at Washington
Dec. 21 at L.A. Rams
Dec. 27 ST. LOUIS

GREEN BAY PACKERS

Sept. 13 L.A. RAIDERS
Sept. 20 DENVER at Mil.
Sept. 27 at Tampa Bay
Oct. 4 at Minnesota
Oct. 11 DETROIT
Oct. 18 PHILADELPHIA
Oct. 25 at Detroit
Nov. 1 TAMPA BAY at Mil.
Nov. 8 CHICAGO
Nov. 15 at Seattle
Nov. 22 at Kansas City
Nov. 29 at Chicago
Dec. 6 SAN FRANCISCO
Dec. 13 MINNESOTA at Mil.
Dec. 19 at N.Y. Giants (Sat.)
Dec. 27 at New Orleans

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

Sept. 13 DETROIT
Sept. 20 at L.A. Rams
Sept. 27 at Kansas City
Oct. 4 GREEN BAY
Oct. 11 at Chicago
Oct. 18 TAMPA BAY
Oct. 25 DENVER
Nov. 1 at Seattle
Nov. 8 L.A. RAIDERS
Nov. 15 at Tampa Bay
Nov. 22 ATLANTA
Nov. 26 at Dallas (Thanks.)
Dec. 6 CHICAGO
Dec. 13 vs. Green Bay at Mil.
Dec. 20 at Detroit
Dec. 26 WASHINGTON (Sat.)

CHICAGO BEARS

Sept. 14 N.Y. GIANTS (Mon.)
Sept. 20 TAMPA BAY
Sept. 27 at Detroit
Oct. 4 at Philadelphia
Oct. 11 MINNESOTA
Oct. 18 NEW ORLEANS
Oct. 25 at Tampa Bay
Nov. 1 KANSAS CITY
Nov. 8 at Cleveland
Nov. 16 at Denver (Mon.)
Nov. 22 DETROIT
Nov. 29 GREEN BAY
Dec. 6 at Minnesota
Dec. 14 at San Francisco
Dec. 20 SEATTLE
Dec. 27 at L.A. Raiders

DETROIT LIONS

Sept. 13 at Minnesota
Sept. 20 at L.A. Raiders
Sept. 27 CHICAGO
Oct. 4 TAMPA BAY
Oct. 11 at Green Bay
Oct. 18 SEATTLE
Oct. 25 GREEN BAY
Nov. 1 at Denver
Nov. 8 DALLAS
Nov. 15 at Washington
Nov. 22 at Chicago
Nov. 26 KANSAS CITY (Thanks.)
Dec. 6 L.A. RAMS
Dec. 13 at Tampa Bay
Dec. 20 MINNESOTA
Dec. 27 at Atlanta

LOS ANGELES RAMS

Sept. 13 at Houston
Sept. 20 MINNESOTA
Sept. 27 CINCINNATI
Oct. 4 at New Orleans
Oct. 11 PITTSBURGH
Oct. 18 at Atlanta
Oct. 26 at Cleveland (Mon.)
Nov. 1 SAN FRANCISCO
Nov. 8 NEW ORLEANS
Nov. 15 at St. Louis
Nov. 23 at Washington (Mon.)
Nov. 29 TAMPA BAY
Dec. 6 at Detroit
Dec. 13 ATLANTA
Dec. 21 DALLAS (Mon.)
Dec. 27 at San Francisco

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

Sept. 13 CLEVELAND
Sept. 20 at Philadelphia
Sept. 27 ATLANTA
Oct. 4 L.A. RAMS
Oct. 11 at St. Louis
Oct. 18 at Chicago
Oct. 25 SAN FRANCISCO
Nov. 1 at Atlanta
Nov. 8 at L.A. Rams
Nov. 15 at San Francisco
Nov. 22 N.Y. GIANTS
Nov. 29 at Pittsburgh
Dec. 6 TAMPA BAY
Dec. 13 HOUSTON
Dec. 20 at Cincinnati
Dec. 27 GREEN BAY

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NEW YORK GIANTS

Sept. 14 at Chicago (Mon.)
 Sept. 20 DALLAS
 Sept. 27 at Miami
 Oct. 5 SAN FRANCISCO (Mon.)
 Oct. 11 WASHINGTON
 Oct. 18 at Buffalo
 Oct. 25 ST. LOUIS
 Nov. 2 at Dallas (Mon.)
 Nov. 8 NEW ENGLAND
 Nov. 15 at Philadelphia
 Nov. 22 at New Orleans
 Nov. 29 at Washington
 Dec. 6 PHILADELPHIA
 Dec. 13 at St. Louis
 Dec. 19 GREEN BAY (Sat.)
 Dec. 27 N.Y. JETS

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

Sept. 13 at Washington
 Sept. 20 NEW ORLEANS
 Sept. 27 at San Francisco
 Oct. 4 CHICAGO
 Oct. 11 at Dallas
 Oct. 18 at Green Bay
 Oct. 25 DALLAS
 Nov. 1 at St. Louis
 Nov. 8 WASHINGTON
 Nov. 15 N.Y. GIANTS
 Nov. 22 ST. LOUIS
 Nov. 29 at New England
 Dec. 6 at N.Y. Giants
 Dec. 13 MIAMI
 Dec. 20 at N.Y. Jets
 Dec. 27 BUFFALO

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

Sept. 13 DALLAS
 Sept. 20 at San Diego
 Sept. 27 INDIANAPOLIS
 Oct. 4 at Washington
 Oct. 11 NEW ORLEANS
 Oct. 18 at San Francisco
 Oct. 25 at N.Y. Giants
 Nov. 1 PHILADELPHIA
 Nov. 8 TAMPA BAY
 Nov. 15 L.A. RAMS
 Nov. 22 at Philadelphia
 Nov. 29 at Atlanta
 Dec. 6 WASHINGTON
 Dec. 13 N.Y. GIANTS
 Dec. 20 at Tampa Bay
 Dec. 27 at Dallas

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

Sept. 13 at Pittsburgh
 Sept. 20 at Cincinnati
 Sept. 27 PHILADELPHIA
 Oct. 5 at N.Y. Giants (Mon.)
 Oct. 11 ATLANTA
 Oct. 18 ST. LOUIS
 Oct. 25 at New Orleans
 Nov. 1 at L.A. Rams
 Nov. 8 HOUSTON
 Nov. 15 NEW ORLEANS
 Nov. 22 at Tampa Bay
 Nov. 29 CLEVELAND
 Dec. 6 at Green Bay
 Dec. 14 CHICAGO (Mon.)
 Dec. 20 at Atlanta
 Dec. 27 L.A. RAMS

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

Sept. 13 ATLANTA
 Sept. 20 at Chicago
 Sept. 27 GREEN BAY
 Oct. 4 at Detroit
 Oct. 11 SAN DIEGO
 Oct. 18 at Minnesota
 Oct. 25 CHICAGO
 Nov. 1 vs. Green Bay at Mil.
 Nov. 8 at St. Louis
 Nov. 15 MINNESOTA
 Nov. 22 SAN FRANCISCO
 Nov. 29 L.A. Rams
 Dec. 6 at New Orleans
 Dec. 13 DETROIT
 Dec. 20 St. Louis
 Dec. 27 at Indianapolis

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

Sept. 13 PHILADELPHIA
 Sept. 20 at Atlanta
 Sept. 27 NEW ENGLAND
 Oct. 4 ST. LOUIS
 Oct. 11 at N.Y. Giants
 Oct. 19 at Dallas (Mon.)
 Oct. 25 N.Y. JETS
 Nov. 1 at Buffalo
 Nov. 8 at Philadelphia
 Nov. 15 DETROIT
 Nov. 23 L.A. RAMS (Mon.)
 Nov. 29 N.Y. GIANTS
 Dec. 6 at St. Louis
 Dec. 13 DALLAS
 Dec. 20 at Miami
 Dec. 26 at Minnesota (Sat.)

BUFFALO BILLS

Sept. 13 N.Y. JETS
 Sept. 20 HOUSTON
 Sept. 27 at Dallas
 Oct. 4 INDIANAPOLIS
 Oct. 11 at New England
 Oct. 18 N.Y. GIANTS
 Oct. 25 at Miami
 Nov. 1 WASHINGTON
 Nov. 8 DENVER
 Nov. 15 at Cleveland
 Nov. 22 at N.Y. Jets
 Nov. 29 MIAMI
 Dec. 6 at L.A. Raiders
 Dec. 13 at Indianapolis
 Dec. 20 NEW ENGLAND
 Dec. 27 at Philadelphia

CINCINNATI BENGALS

Sept. 13 at Indianapolis
 Sept. 20 SAN FRANCISCO
 Sept. 27 at L.A. Rams
 Oct. 4 SAN DIEGO
 Oct. 11 at Seattle
 Oct. 18 CLEVELAND
 Oct. 25 at Pittsburgh
 Nov. 1 HOUSTON
 Nov. 8 MIAMI
 Nov. 15 at Atlanta
 Nov. 22 PITTSBURGH
 Nov. 29 at N.Y. Jets
 Dec. 6 KANSAS CITY
 Dec. 13 at Cleveland
 Dec. 20 NEW ORLEANS
 Dec. 27 at Houston

CLEVELAND BROWNS

Sept. 13 at New Orleans
 Sept. 20 PITTSBURGH
 Sept. 28 DENVER (Mon.)
 Oct. 4 at New England
 Oct. 11 HOUSTON
 Oct. 18 at Cincinnati
 Oct. 26 L.A. RAMS (Mon.)
 Nov. 1 at San Diego
 Nov. 8 ATLANTA
 Nov. 15 BUFFALO
 Nov. 22 at Houston
 Nov. 29 at San Francisco
 Dec. 6 INDIANAPOLIS
 Dec. 13 CINCINNATI
 Dec. 20 at L.A. Raiders
 Dec. 26 Pittsburgh (Sat.)

DENVER BRONCOS

Sept. 13 SEATTLE
 Sept. 20 vs. Green Bay at Mil.
 Sept. 28 at Cleveland (Mon.)
 Oct. 4 HOUSTON
 Oct. 12 L.A. RAIDERS (Mon.)
 Oct. 18 at Kansas City
 Oct. 25 at Minnesota
 Nov. 1 DETROIT
 Nov. 8 at Buffalo
 Nov. 16 CHICAGO (Mon.)
 Nov. 22 at L.A. Raiders
 Nov. 29 at San Diego
 Dec. 6 NEW ENGLAND
 Dec. 13 at Seattle
 Dec. 19 KANSAS CITY
 Dec. 27 SAN DIEGO

HOUSTON OILERS

Sept. 13 L.A. RAMS
 Sept. 20 at Buffalo
 Sept. 27 L.A. RAIDERS
 Oct. 4 at Denver
 Oct. 11 at Cleveland
 Oct. 18 NEW ENGLAND
 Oct. 25 ATLANTA
 Nov. 1 at Cincinnati
 Nov. 8 at San Francisco
 Nov. 15 at Pittsburgh
 Nov. 22 CLEVELAND
 Nov. 29 at Indianapolis
 Dec. 6 SAN DIEGO
 Dec. 13 at New Orleans
 Dec. 20 PITTSBURGH
 Dec. 27 CINCINNATI

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

Sept. 13 CINCINNATI
 Sept. 20 MIAMI
 Sept. 27 at St. Louis
 Oct. 4 at Buffalo
 Oct. 11 N.Y. JETS
 Oct. 18 at Pittsburgh
 Oct. 25 NEW ENGLAND
 Nov. 1 at N.Y. Jets
 Nov. 8 SAN DIEGO
 Nov. 15 at Miami
 Nov. 22 at New England
 Nov. 29 HOUSTON
 Dec. 6 at Cleveland
 Dec. 13 BUFFALO
 Dec. 20 at San Diego
 Dec. 27 TAMPA BAY

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

Sept. 13 SAN DIEGO
 Sept. 20 at Seattle
 Sept. 27 MINNESOTA
 Oct. 4 at L.A. Raiders
 Oct. 11 at Miami
 Oct. 18 DENVER
 Oct. 25 at San Diego
 Nov. 1 at Chicago
 Nov. 8 PITTSBURGH
 Nov. 15 N.Y. JETS
 Nov. 22 GREEN BAY
 Nov. 26 at Detroit (Thanks.)
 Dec. 6 at Cincinnati
 Dec. 13 L.A. RAIDERS
 Dec. 19 at Denver (Sat.)
 Dec. 27 SEATTLE

L.A. RAIDERS

Sept. 13 at Green Bay
 Sept. 20 DETROIT
 Sept. 27 at Houston
 Oct. 4 KANSAS CITY
 Oct. 12 at Denver (Mon.)
 Oct. 18 SAN DIEGO
 Oct. 25 SEATTLE
 Nov. 1 at New England
 Nov. 8 at Minnesota
 Nov. 15 at San Diego
 Nov. 22 DENVER
 Nov. 30 at Seattle (Mon.)
 Dec. 6 BUFFALO
 Dec. 13 at Kansas City
 Dec. 20 CLEVELAND
 Dec. 27 CHICAGO

MIAMI DOLPHINS

Sept. 13 at New England
 Sept. 20 at Indianapolis
 Sept. 27 N.Y. GIANTS
 Oct. 4 DALLAS
 Oct. 11 at Indianapolis
 Oct. 18 MIAMI
 Oct. 25 BUFFALO
 Nov. 1 PITTSBURGH
 Nov. 8 at Cincinnati
 Nov. 15 INDIANAPOLIS
 Nov. 22 at Dallas
 Nov. 29 at Buffalo
 Dec. 7 N.Y. JETS (Mon.)
 Dec. 13 at Philadelphia
 Dec. 20 WASHINGTON
 Dec. 28 NEW ENGLAND (Mon.)

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

Sept. 13 MIAMI
 Sept. 21 at N.Y. Jets (Mon.)
 Sept. 27 at Washington
 Oct. 4 CLEVELAND
 Oct. 11 BUFFALO
 Oct. 18 at Houston
 Oct. 25 at Indianapolis
 Nov. 1 L.A. RAIDERS
 Nov. 8 at N.Y. Giants
 Nov. 15 DALLAS
 Nov. 22 INDIANAPOLIS
 Nov. 29 PHILADELPHIA
 Dec. 6 at Denver
 Dec. 13 N.Y. JETS
 Dec. 20 at Buffalo
 Dec. 28 at Miami (Mon.)

N.Y. JETS

Sept. 13 at Buffalo
 Sept. 21 NEW ENGLAND (Mon.)
 Sept. 27 at Pittsburgh
 Oct. 4 DALLAS
 Oct. 11 at Indianapolis
 Oct. 18 MIAMI
 Oct. 25 at Washington
 Nov. 1 INDIANAPOLIS
 Nov. 9 SEATTLE (Mon.)
 Nov. 15 at Kansas City
 Nov. 22 BUFFALO
 Nov. 29 CINCINNATI
 Dec. 7 at Miami (Mon.)
 Dec. 13 at New England
 Dec. 20 PHILADELPHIA
 Dec. 27 N.Y. Giants

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

Sept. 13 SAN FRANCISCO
 Sept. 20 at Cleveland
 Sept. 27 N.Y. JETS
 Oct. 4 at Atlanta
 Oct. 11 at L.A. Rams
 Oct. 18 INDIANAPOLIS
 Oct. 25 CINCINNATI
 Nov. 1 at Miami
 Nov. 8 at Kansas City
 Nov. 15 HOUSTON
 Nov. 22 at Cincinnati
 Nov. 29 NEW ORLEANS
 Dec. 6 SEATTLE
 Dec. 13 at San Diego
 Dec. 20 at Houston
 Dec. 26 CLEVELAND (Sat.)

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

Sept. 13 at Kansas City
 Sept. 20 ST. LOUIS
 Sept. 27 SEATTLE
 Oct. 4 at Cincinnati
 Oct. 11 at Tampa Bay
 Oct. 18 at L.A. Raiders
 Oct. 25 KANSAS CITY
 Nov. 1 CLEVELAND
 Nov. 8 at Indianapolis
 Nov. 15 L.A. RAIDERS
 Nov. 22 at Seattle
 Nov. 29 DENVER
 Dec. 6 at Houston
 Dec. 13 PITTSBURGH
 Dec. 20 INDIANAPOLIS
 Dec. 27 at Denver

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Sept. 13 at Denver
 Sept. 20 KANSAS CITY
 Sept. 27 at San Diego
 Oct. 4 MIAMI
 Oct. 11 CINCINNATI
 Oct. 18 at Detroit
 Oct. 25 at L.A. Raiders
 Nov. 1 MINNESOTA
 Nov. 9 at N.Y. Jets (Mon.)
 Nov. 15 GREEN BAY
 Nov. 22 SAN DIEGO
 Nov. 30 L.A. RAIDERS (Mon.)
 Dec. 6 at Pittsburgh
 Dec. 13 DENVER
 Dec. 20 at Chicago
 Dec. 27 Kansas City

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Giants, Seahawks, Bears, Browns, Redskins Best

If statistical analysis is a chief component in NFL handicapping, the 1988 Super Bowl will be a matchup of New York Giants or Washington or Chicago versus either Seattle or Cleveland. The forecast is offered under a condition which demands that these teams play as they did in 1986, and if the field has to be narrowed to a prime candidate for the Super Bowl ring, try Seattle - the NFL's most dynamic team in the final stages of last year.

Statistical handicapping is far removed from other methods, those evolving around emotion, spread records or personal judgment - mainly because "stats" are a quantitative and not a qualitative device. Numbers cannot measure emotion or intensity but they can pinpoint teams that "get the job done, and those that don't."

The difference between winning and losing is often a very thin line, and the gap from the worst to the best is never as spacious as it appears. Team performance changes during a course of a year, and only through proper statistical analysis will you be able to be aware of this motion - whether it be up or down. Most games are decided by talent - the strength of the offense versus the defense - yet, nearly one-fourth of all NFL games end up as a victory for the team that should not have won, being outplayed and getting the win solely because of "Lady Luck."

Best Team? 1972 Dolphins?

There is a saying, "A team is never quite as good as it looks when it is winning or as bad as it appears when losing," and statistical handicapping often permits you to put teams in the proper perspective. As an example, the fabled Miami Dolphins of 1972 (17-0-0) are being proclaimed as the most powerful NFL team ever, but is this a rightful analogy? Most remember that the team did not lose, yet three of their wins came by a combined total of seven points, and they narrowly beat Washington in the Super Bowl, 14-7, and outgained the Skins by only 25 yards.

Stats, looking at the 1972 Miami Dolphins, stress that the team outscored opponents by an average of 27-12 and out gained them, 371-256. These are, at first glance, impressive numbers, but the Chicago Bears - an offensively weak team most of 1986 - had similar numbers, winning the scoring battle, 22-12, and yardage war, 341-258. The defenses are nearly identical, and is anyone calling the 1986 Bears - the second greatest team in NFL history?

The value of stats is that they take both personal judgment and reputation out of the blueprint, and make the ranking or rating of teams strictly a mechanical process. The researcher has very little impact on the findings, but how he inserts and employs the data is critical because most know that you can bend statistics to such an extent that they can solidify any results that you wish to obtain.

Ideally, you want to want to use statistical methods that go only as deep as you need, keeping in mind that simple methods often outweigh complex ones. The most widely used aspect of stats is the changing of performance numbers into power ratings, and Jim Feist Sports does this weekly for professional football, paying special attention to margins and quality of the opposition. This is the framework for the 1987 forecasts - again stipulating that you can expect THIS result IF teams play at their season-ending performance rates.

AFC - EAST DIVISION

New England	87
Miami	84
New York Jets	84
Buffalo	81
Indianapolis	80

AFC - CENTRAL DIVISION

Cleveland	90
Cincinnati	85
Pittsburgh	83
Houston	79

AFC - WEST DIVISION

Seattle	92
Denver	88
Kansas City	85
L. A. Raiders	85
San Diego	80

In the American Football Conference, New England is only three points better

than Miami and the Jets, with Buffalo and Indianapolis, trailing. The Central has Cleveland moving five points ahead of Cincinnati, and seven in front of Pittsburgh. The West is a two-team affair, Seattle four over Denver. The National Conference looks for the Giants and Redskins to be at the top of the East, Chicago four in front of Minnesota in the Central, and the 49ers three better than the Rams while the Saints and Falcons are not out of it by any means.

NFC - EAST DIVISION

N. Y. Giants	95
Washington	91
Dallas	84
Philadelphia	81
St. Louis	79

NFC - CENTRAL DIVISION

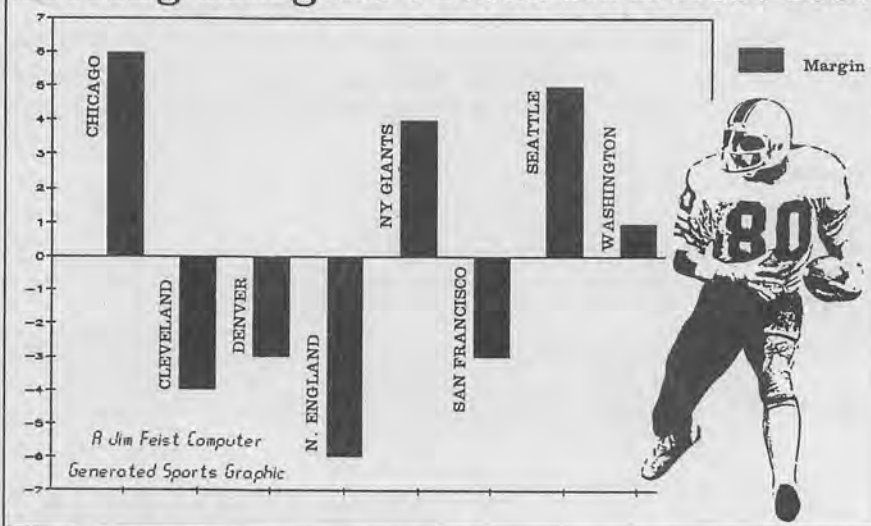
Chicago	91
Minnesota	87
Detroit	81
Green Bay	78
Tampa Bay	75

NFC - WEST DIVISION

San Francisco	89
L. A. Rams	86
New Orleans	84
Atlanta	82

Overall, the Feist Power Ratings rate the AFC West and NFC East as the most powerful in the NFL, creating a challenge for Denver and the Giants to repeat. The weakest division is still the NFC Central,

Scoring Margins versus NFL Best-1986



Of the eight top rated NFL teams for 1987, only four were able to have PLUS scoring margins against quality opposition - led by Chicago which beat other good teams by an average of six points per game. The Giants had an edge of +5 while AFC Super Bowler, Denver was -3. Two other NFL teams, not graphed, had plus margins - the Jets +4, and Bengals, +1.

mostly because of the Bays, and the improving division is the AFC Central, despite the decline of the Steelers.

1987 DIVISIONAL RANKINGS

AFC - West	86.0
NFC - East	86.0
NFC - West	85.3
AFC - Central	84.3
AFC - East	83.2
NFC - Central	82.4

The Quality Factor

Whom you play and how you play against them is one of the main parts of professional football, and an aspect that is passed over by most handicappers. Super Bowl aspirants have to be able to compete when the team across the field is just as good as they are, and this is where the Giants, Bears and Seahawks shine. They possess winning margins against the top NFL teams.

If you sub-divide the league into three sections (Best, Average and Weak), scoring margins against the various groups will assist your determination of strength (or lack of it). As an example, the graphs on this page reveal the scoring margins of four teams that are beloved by many, and the data detail the margin against the

various levels of competition.

Miami loses to the best by 14 points and does well when facing average or weak foes. Dallas, San Francisco and New England all have the same pattern, emphasizing that they wipe out the easier and lose to stronger foes. Dallas, in an unusual season, not only failed to beat the best NFL teams, the Cowboys also had a negative margin against average clubs. All these teams could compete but could not conquer.

In such a scoring analysis, you will find some highly intriguing findings - such as Chicago outscoring average and weak teams by the same amount, 11 points per game. This indicates that the Bears will probably cover most lines posted when the enemy is average, but not when it is weak. The Bengals had a -1 against the best, and only a +3 versus the weak, proving that Cincinnati kept every game close, regardless of the talent breach.

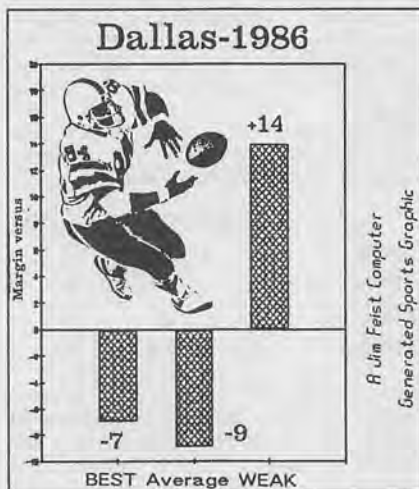
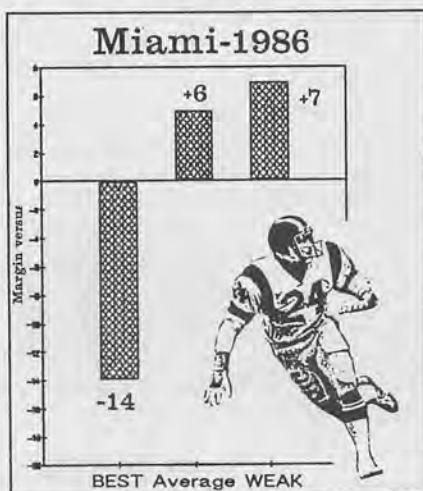
Detroit nailed weak foes by five while losing to average teams by 12, and yet were able to play their staunchest football against the best group, dropping the average game by a scant four points. Houston was in a similar shape, losing to the best by two and to the average by 8. Kansas City had a plus margin against each of the groups, but not by much - beating the best by one, average and worst by two. Minnesota fared best against average

(+12) and weak (+15) foes, losing to the best by three.

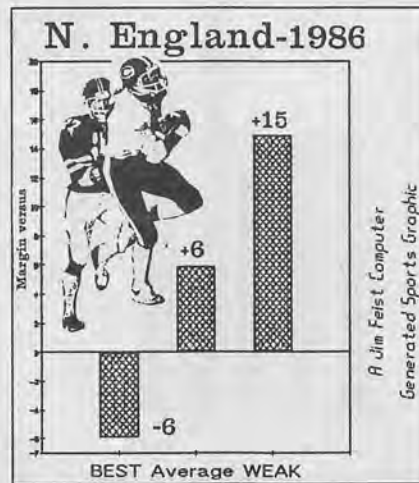
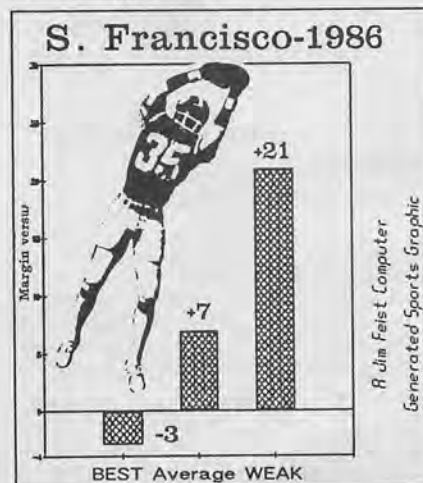
Strange as the case may be, the Jets beat the best by four and worst by 15, but were outscored by 11 points per game against average teams. Part of the reason probably could be traced to the bevy of injuries and when they took place on the schedule. And here is another, involving high-scoring San Diego. The Chargers, in 1986, had an average game final of 21-25 or a total of 46 points per game. Against the best clubs, the Chargers lost by seven with a total of 43; when the opponent was average, San Diego won by one with a 59 total. Then, up against the easy-pickings, the Coryell-less fliers did manage to win by eight but THE TOTAL WAS DOWN TO 26!

Breaking down scoring into groups for easy consumption is a brilliant move when you want to determine where and how teams score points and win. This can provide not only a solid judgment for season beginning potential, it can provide a valuable aid as lines appear during the year. Here is a table that portrays the margins of the NFL teams when they faced the various levels of competition - Best, Average and Weak.

	Best	Avg.	Weak
Atlanta	-8	+3	+3
Buffalo	-11	-3	-1
Chicago	+6	+11	+11
Cincinnati	-1	+1	+3
Cleveland	-4	+4	+8
Dallas	-7	-9	+14
Denver	-3	+3	+12
Detroit	-4	-12	+5
Green Bay	-5	-14	+2
Houston	-2	-8	+2
Indianapolis	-10	-8	-8
Kansas City	+1	+2	+2
LA Raiders	-4	+2	+2
LA Rams	-1	+4	+4
Miami	-14	+6	+7
Minnesota	-3	+12	+15
New England	-6	+6	+15
New Orleans	-4	-5	+14
NY Giants	+4	+2	+18
NY Jets	+4	-9	+15
Philadelphia	-14	+7	+3
Pittsburgh	-18	+9	+10
St. Louis	-12	-14	+2
San Diego	-13	+1	+8
S. Francisco	-3	+7	+21
Seattle	+5	+1	+13
Tampa Bay	-25	-8	-9
Washington	+1	+4	+9



Four teams that are often considered as title threats have one very strong thing going against them: They lose when competition is the keenest. San Francisco, New England, Miami and Dallas all have negative margins when facing the elite of the NFL, creating most of their scoring surplus versus weaker opposition.



Using statistics as a guide in football handicapping can get you just as involved as you wish to become; the greatest danger is in getting so much data that it conflicts, and ultimately, confuses. The sharp researchers go no further than they need to get answers to their questions, and they work with one variable at a time. As more questions need to be answered, more data are explored. The beginner would do well to concentrate on scoring - what the offense gets and defense allows.

An Inside Look at NFL Team Scoring Averages

There are many hidden gems beneath the title, "Scoring Average," and only when you probe, deeply, can you uncover the value of this statistic that assembles past results into a quantitative barometer. The final score of any singular game is not as trustworthy as the finals of a string of games, considering that many teams lose while gaining far more yards than the actual scoreboard winner. Over a three or four game streak, it is assumed that the "breaks" even out, and the scoring average becomes valid.

One of the first things that scoring average can relate is how teams are changing over a period of seasons, such as the decline of Dallas and Chicago's appearance as the latest threat to claim the vacant title, "America's Team." Dallas, as the graphic shows, has had its offense and defense scoring averages meet at nearly the same plateau. The Pokes had a comfortable offense edge in 1982 and 1983, but since that time it has eroded.

Scoring changes are very slow to evolve, and movement is usually on the basis of less than a point per week. As an example, in 1983, Dallas was averaging 30 points per game on offense, and this dropped to 19 at the end of the 1984. This is a decline of 11 points, and when measured over a 16-game season, the Cowboys had an offense decline of only .687 points per week.

The important message is that even a lopsided win or loss should not drastically change how you evaluate a team, because the scoring impact is going to be less than a point change in either direction. Too often, one-sided affairs cause handicappers to over-rate the winner, and under-rate the loser. Scoring averages, except for the first few weeks of the year, creep along at a leisurely pace, rising or falling in minute increments.

Chicago has a graphic that is totally opposite, going from an even keel in scoring to a current level where the "points for" are much higher than the points surrendered. Naturally, most NFL teams would like to be in this situation.

Scoring averages can also be used to judge how NFL teams are playing the game. Is scoring going up? Is it becoming an offensive whirlpool or is defense getting a better grip, based on the Giants' and Bears' most recent Super Bowl successes?

A four year study of points in the NFL has resulted in our theory that scoring is declining. The study was centered around the number of average points scored, by both teams, in all pro games, and teams were assigned to one of three groups. First, the highest ranking that included all teams that had total game points in the range of 48 to 59, a space normally reserved for San Diego and Miami. The next cluster was established for NFL franchises that averaged game total points between 39 and 47 - a norm setting that includes most teams. Finally, the low end was set at 30 to 38, meaning the members of this group had either very fierce defenses or terrible offenses.

When completed, this chart was produced - showing the number of teams in each of the scoring subdivisions:

	30-38	39-47	48-59
1983	3	18	7
1984	6	18	4
1985	3	23	2
1986	11	14	3

The findings do confirm that scoring changes are taking place inside professional football. The number of teams that get involved in games with 38 or less total

points has risen from three, in 1983, to 11 in 1986. At the same time, the highest range (48-59) has seen a decline from seven to three. In all cases, the middle zone remains the most occupied.

If this supposition holds true in 1987, look for more and more NFL games to continue the decline of points scored by both teams - which may result in linesmakers posting smaller "over-under" numbers, and fewer double digit underdogs. Common sense says that if fewer total points are going to be scored in the contest, then the favorite will have a more difficult challenge if it is asked to cover a 14-point spread.

An Applied Scoring Use

Handicapping with only Scoring Averages is the easiest statistical method to employ, and there is no weekly data logging requirement. Each Monday morning newspaper carries an NFL standings boxscore, and it contains the number of points scored, for and against. You divide the offense and defense points by the number of games played, and get the current Scoring Average.

Once a team's average has been obtained, you can do a pre-game workout on matches of interest. The quickest method, and one that requires very little math, is to write down the OFFENSE AVERAGE for each team, and then adjust with the defense.

Let's make an example, using the 1987 NFL season opener between the Giants and Bears - a Monday night thriller that has been scheduled to hype both the new season and television ratings. Using the final averages from 1986, New York scores 23 points per start, and the Bears, 22. These items are written down:

Offense Scoring

Chicago	22
New York	23

Next, determine the defense scoring average - what opponents score per start versus both the Giants and Bears. New York allows 15 points per game, and Chicago, 12. The NFL Average Score on DEFENSE is 20.7, or 21 points. Determine how each team compares to the league average:

Def. NFL Adj.

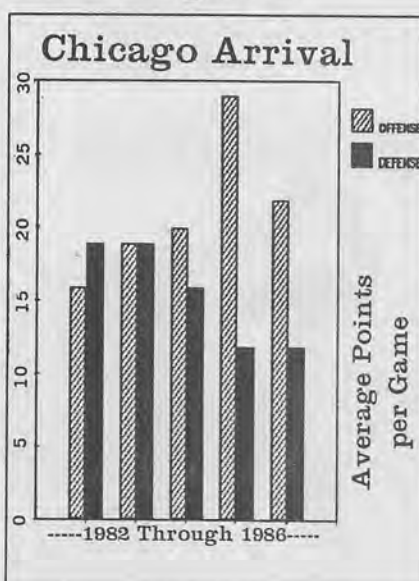
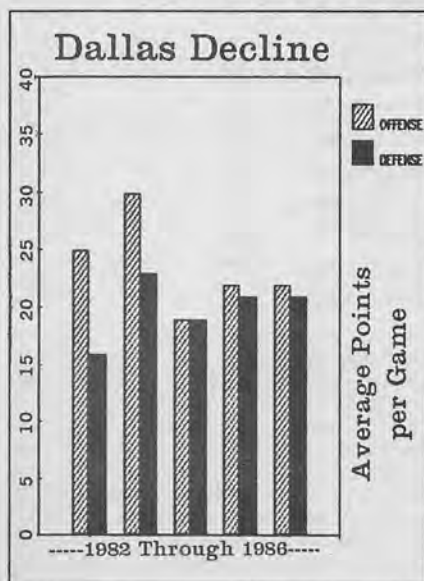
Chicago	12	21	-9
New York	15	21	-6

Chicago permits nine fewer points per game than does the average NFL team, and the Giants are not far behind, rating out at -6. These new defensive adjustments are applied to the offenses of each team, enabling us to get a "neutral" field final:

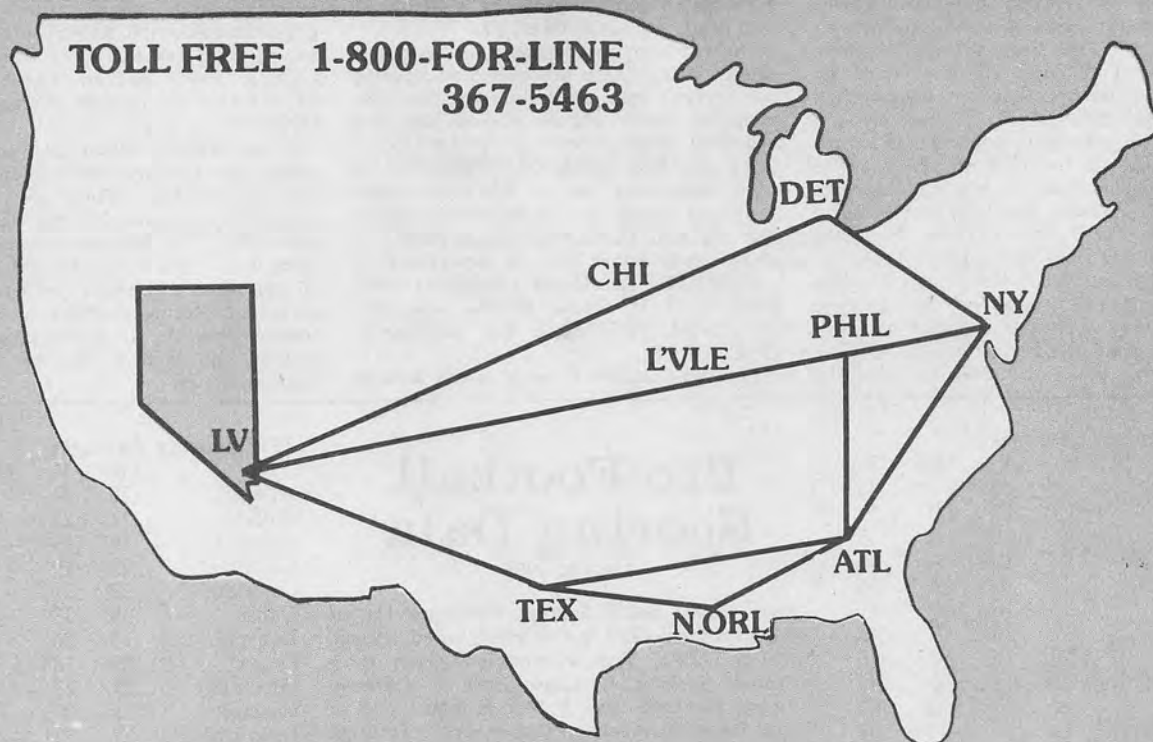
Off. Def. Final

Chicago	22	-6	16
New York	23	-9	14

The 'America's Team' Pageant



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The Bears' offensive average of 22 points per game is reduced by New York's defense adjustment (-6), leaving us with an expectation of the Bears to tally 16 points. New York's offense, 23, is lowered by Chicago's defense adjustment (-9), netting a projected final of 14. Therefore, on a neutral site, scoring averages would expect Chicago to win by 16-14. If you want to add the home field factor, and there is plenty of question about its authenticity, subtract TWO points from the Road Team and add them to the Home Team.

Working out projected finals in this manner will give you a very fast analysis of what may happen in terms of who will win the game, what the margin is most likely to be, and if the total points will be

high or low. From our example, Chicago is expected to win the game, by a margin of two points, with a total of 30.

There is even an additional shortcut that can be used, if you are averse to figuring our current team averages from the NFL standings. As an option, you can set up a beginning Scoring Average for each team, using the 1986 ENDING AVERAGES as your beginning point. Work out your projected scores on the 14 weekly games, and any time that a team scores EIGHT or more points higher than its expected final - INCREASE its offense average by ONE POINT. If it scores EIGHT less than anticipated, DECREASE the offense by ONE POINT.

The same applies to each team's defense

scoring average. If the team allows EIGHT points more than your workout guesstimated, INCREASE the defense average by ONE POINT. If EIGHT or less points were scored against them, DECREASE the defense average by ONE POINT.

If the offense adjustment goes up one point, than the opponent's defense will also rise one. If the offense goes down one point, the opponent's defense also has a one point drop. The offense adjustment of one team is identical to the defense adjustment of the other, and when finished, you have a current Scoring Average to use for the coming week. As the season progresses, the method will tend to balance out scoring highs and lows.

1982 Scoring Averages

	For	Vs	Mar.	Tot.
Atlanta	20	22	-2	42
Buffalo	17	17	+0	34
Chicago	16	19	-3	35
Cincinnati	26	20	+6	46
Cleveland	16	20	-4	36
Dallas	25	16	+9	41
Denver	16	25	-9	41
Detroit	20	20	+0	40
Green Bay	25	19	+6	44
Houston	15	27	-12	42
Indianapolis	13	26	-13	39
Kansas City	20	20	+0	40
L.A. Raiders	29	22	+7	51
L.A. Rams	22	28	-6	50
Miami	22	15	+7	37
Minnesota	21	22	-1	43
New England	16	17	-1	33
New Orleans	14	18	-4	32
N.Y. Giants	18	18	+0	36
N.Y. Jets	27	18	+9	45
Philadelphia	21	22	-1	43
Pittsburgh	23	16	+7	39
St. Louis	15	19	-4	34
San Diego	32	25	+7	57
S. Francisco	23	23	+0	46
Seattle	14	16	-2	30
Tampa Bay	18	20	-2	38
Washington	21	14	+7	35

Pro Football Scoring Data

1982 to 1986

These tables detail Scoring Averages for all 28 teams from 1982, a strike-shortened season, through 1986. The information given is: 1: Offense Scoring Average (For); 2: Defense Scoring Average (Vs); 3: Margin (Mar.), and 4: Total Points in Average Game (Tot.). Through this table, you may investigate how much a team changes from one season to the next in terms of the identified variables. Keep in mind that change is very slow to occur, and a seemingly giant drop from 34 points per game to 18 is but ONE POINT per game for 16 weeks. Perhaps, one of the more interesting handicapping tools is MARGIN - the difference between Offense and Defense Average. This, quickly, shows change. As an example, Atlanta was -2 in 1982, and -1 the following year - or very little change in performance. In 1984, the Falcons' margin was -6 or a drop of five from the previous season, and it fell even further in 1985, hitting the -10 level. 1986 was a resurgent year as Atlanta improved its margin by 10 points, getting back to the +0 level.

1983 Scoring Averages

	For	Vs	Mar.	Tot.
Atlanta	23	24	-1	47
Buffalo	18	22	-4	40
Chicago	19	19	+0	38
Cincinnati	22	19	+3	41
Cleveland	22	21	+1	43
Dallas	30	23	+7	53
Denver	19	20	-1	39
Detroit	22	18	+4	40
Green Bay	27	27	+0	54
Houston	18	29	-11	47
Indianapolis	17	22	-5	39
Kansas City	24	23	+1	47
L.A. Raiders	28	21	+7	49
L.A. Rams	23	22	+1	45
Miami	24	16	+8	40
Minnesota	20	22	-2	42
New England	17	18	-1	35
New Orleans	20	21	-1	43
N.Y. Giants	17	22	-5	39
N.Y. Jets	20	21	-1	41
Philadelphia	15	20	-5	35
Pittsburgh	22	19	+3	41
St. Louis	23	27	-4	50
San Diego	22	29	-7	51
S. Francisco	27	18	+9	45
Seattle	25	25	+0	50
Tampa Bay	15	24	-9	39
Washington	34	21	+13	55

1984 Scoring Averages

	For	Vs	Mar.	Tot.
Atlanta	18	24	-6	42
Buffalo	16	28	-12	44
Chicago	20	16	+4	36
Cincinnati	21	21	+0	42
Cleveland	16	19	-3	35
Dallas	19	19	+0	38
Denver	22	15	+6	37
Detroit	18	26	-8	44
Green Bay	24	19	+5	43
Houston	15	27	-12	42
Indianapolis	15	26	-11	41
Kansas City	20	20	+0	40
L.A. Raiders	23	17	+6	40
L.A. Rams	22	20	+2	42
Miami	32	19	+13	51
Minnesota	17	30	-13	47
New England	23	22	+1	45
New Orleans	25	23	+2	48
N.Y. Giants	19	19	+0	38
N.Y. Jets	21	23	-2	44
Philadelphia	17	20	-3	37
Pittsburgh	24	19	+5	43
St. Louis	26	22	+4	48
San Diego	25	26	-1	51
S. Francisco	30	14	+16	44
Seattle	26	18	+8	44
Tampa Bay	21	24	-3	45
Washington	27	19	+8	46

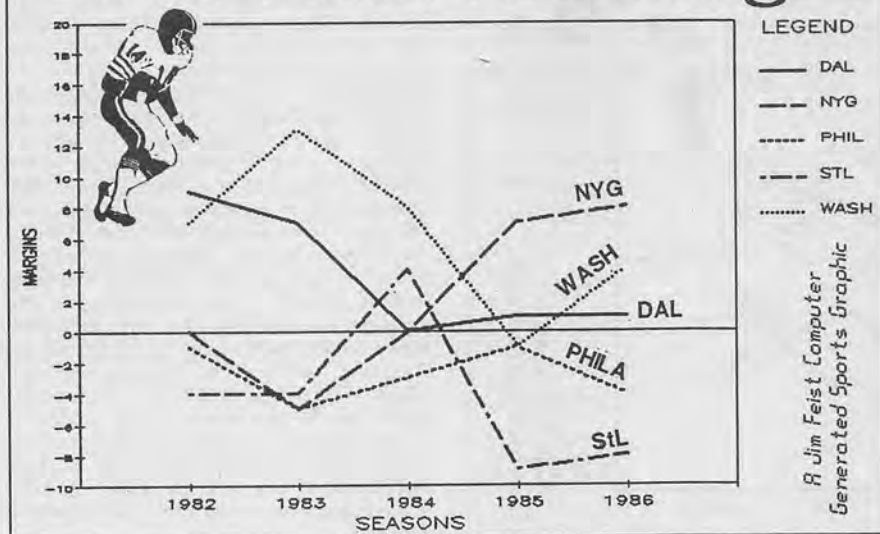
1985 Scoring Averages

	For	Vs	Mar.	Tot.
Atlanta	18	28	-10	46
Buffalo	13	24	-11	37
Chicago	29	12	+17	41
Cincinnati	28	27	+1	55
Cleveland	18	18	+0	36
Dallas	22	21	+1	43
Denver	24	21	+3	45
Detroit	19	23	-4	42
Green Bay	21	22	-1	43
Houston	18	26	-8	44
Indianapolis	20	24	-4	44
Kansas City	20	23	-3	43
L.A. Raiders	22	19	+3	41
L.A. Rams	21	18	+3	39
Miami	27	20	+7	47
Minnesota	21	22	-1	43
New England	23	18	+5	41
New Orleans	18	25	-7	42
N.Y. Giants	25	18	+7	43
N.Y. Jets	25	17	+8	42
Philadelphia	18	19	-1	37
Pittsburgh	24	22	+2	46
St. Louis	17	26	-9	43
San Diego	29	27	+2	56
S. Francisco	26	16	+10	42
Seattle	22	19	+3	41
Tampa Bay	18	28	-10	46
Washington	19	20	-1	39

1986 Scoring Averages

	For	Vs	Mar.	Tot.
Atlanta	18	18	+0	36
Buffalo	18	22	-4	40
Chicago	22	12	+10	34
Cincinnati	26	25	+1	51
Cleveland	24	19	+5	43
Dallas	22	21	+1	43
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Miami	29	27	+2	56
Minnesota	25	17	+8	42
New England	28	21	+7	49
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S. Francisco	23	15	+8	38
Seattle	23	18	+5	41
Tampa Bay	15	30	-15	45
Washington	23	19	+4	42

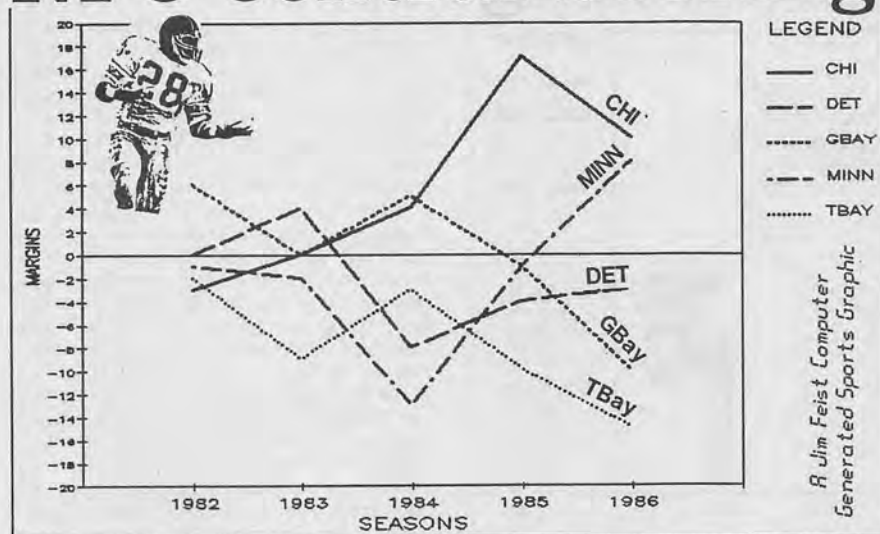
NFC-East Scoring



Giants, Skins Lead

From a rather oblivious start, the New York Giants have climbed to the top of the NFC East - as this graphic illustration based on scoring margins from 1982 to 1986 reveals. New York, more of a loser than a winner in the first pair of depicted seasons, began a northward march in 1983, and capped it off with the Super Bowl last winter. Washington plunged from 1983 to 1985, and has bounced back into the picture while Dallas has played on an even plane for the past three campaigns. Philadelphia has never challenged, and St. Louis is occupying the bottom of the chart. If the trend holds true in 1987, New York will dip somewhat, and Washington could challenge. Difficult to estimate what will happen in Dallas because its pattern is not indicating a direction. The Eagles should start a recovery period, and St. Louis, too, is due for a vast improvement in scoring margin; that slight rise from 1985 to 1986 should continue this fall.

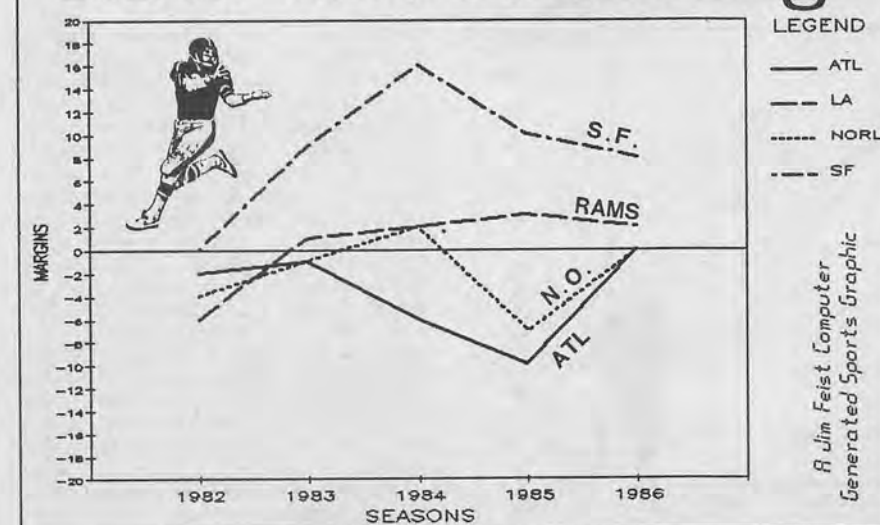
NFC-Central Scoring



Here Comes Minnesota

Only two NFC Central Division teams - Minnesota and Chicago - possess a Scoring Margin that is in the black; the three other members are wallowing in red ink. Chicago, despite a margin dip in 1986, is still in command of the league whereas Minnesota, for the past three years, has been gradually ascending toward the Bears. Scoring margin does indicate that the climb to the top rung of the ladder is hardly an overnight explosion, but begins with some warning shots - fired by Chicago in 1983 and 1984, and Minnesota in 1985 and 1986. Detroit is still in a downward trend cycle, although its scoring margin was better this past year than in 1985. The patterns of Tampa Bay and Green Bay are almost interchangeable, each sliding fast to the basement. The 1987 race between the Bears and Vikings should prove to be very, very fascinating - as will the cellar battle, and which Bay will eventually furnish the plug - Tampa or Green?

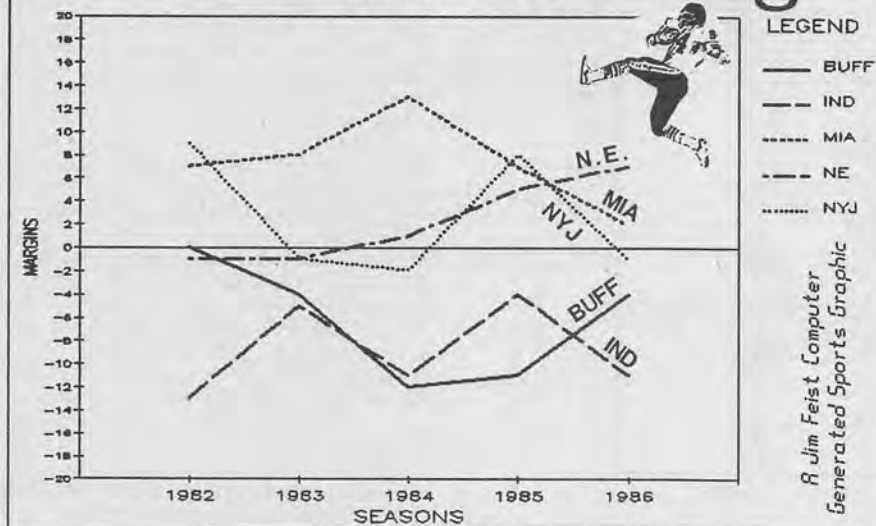
NFC-West Scoring



49ers Notch Above

This has become the most predictable division in all of professional football, which means the annual race is not very attention-holding. As a general rule, the Rams get off to a fast lead but San Francisco narrows the gap, and, eventually, wins. The 49ers, as the pattern implies, are not as far ahead in scoring margin as in the past but no one else in the division is making a sincere challenge. The Rams are one of the NFL's more consistent teams, owning a scoring margin that varies little from year to year. If there is any underlying statement that can be made on the basis of this investigation, it has to be the direction taken by the also-rans, New Orleans and Atlanta. A little spurt can mean better things to come, and if the warning is viable, the Saints and Falcons might be heard from this fall. The gap between the top and bottom should narrow, and this will force the 49ers to keep, at least, one eye open.

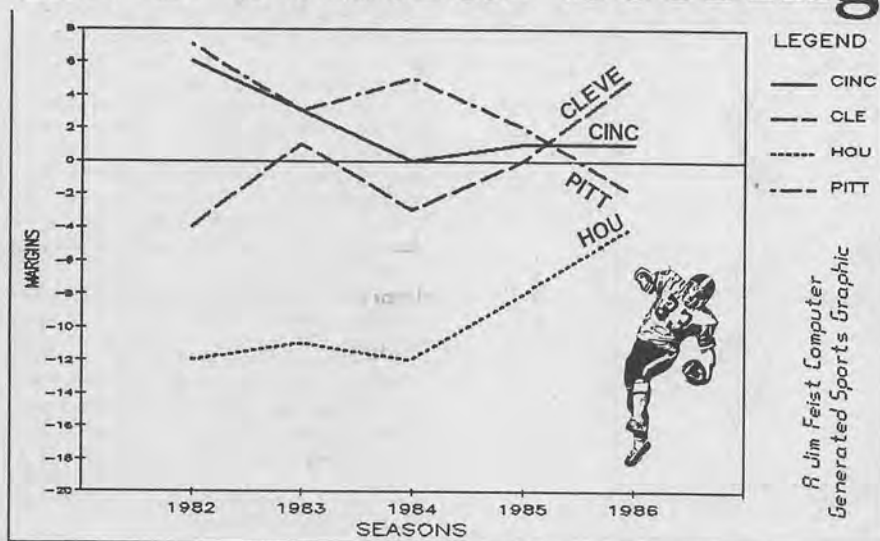
AFC-East Scoring



Big 3 and the Little 2

This division has always broken down into the "Big 3 and Little 2," referring to the fact that three teams - Miami, New England and New York - make all the waves while the others - Indianapolis and Buffalo - get beached. New England, as the graphic relates, is the team of "tomorrow," having a positive scoring margin trend whereas Miami has been slipping since 1984. The Jets, after a giant margin leap in 1985, fell back last fall, but their past history trend would seem to indicate a recovery in 1987. The only goal that the Bills and Colts have in mind is to beat the other one out, escaping the dungeons of the AFC East. Based on the data contained in this study, it is very difficult to accurately predict which of the Big 3 will be able to fend off rivals, and it will take a scoring margin of +5 or better to assure that a title is at hand. The darkhorse could be Buffalo, well-armed at QB with Jim Kelly - but the supporting cast may not be powerful enough.

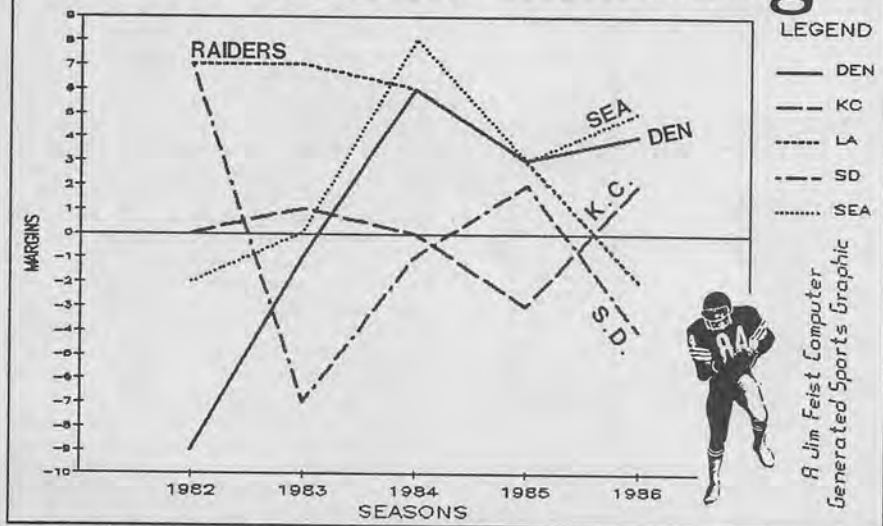
AFC-Central Scoring



Is Houston Gaining?

Two very interesting observations can be made about the Central loop, where there could be a changing of the leadership. Both Cincinnati and Pittsburgh have downward margin trends while Cleveland and Houston are on the upswing. The Steelers have been sliding since 1984, and their 1986 margin plunged below the +0 level. Cincinnati has a very similar format, although it did manage to outscore foes by one point per start last fall. In 1985, the trends of the three top teams met, and Cleveland's emergence as divisional champion should have been anticipated. While the Oilers have not been a contending force for a number of years, their scoring margin line is rising, belatedly, and they are not that far behind the Steelers. If all the trends continue in 1987, Cleveland will probably level off, Pittsburgh start a margin recovery, Cincinnati remain as is, and Houston continue its improvement. Which means that the race, this time out, could be extremely close.

AFC-West Scoring



West in the Best

If this type of pattern had been produced by an EKG, the patient would certainly be on borrowed time, as are most leaders in the AFC West, the most topsy-turvy division in the NFL. In 1982, the Raiders and Chargers were the most powerful teams, but each has faded to a current status of "also-ran." Kansas City has made a few challenges, but for the most part, has been destined for a middle position finish. The new cornerstones are Seattle and Denver, a pair that has climbed from the bottom in 1982 to the highest peak this season, and the Broncos' climb is very impressive. Dan Reeves has taken his team from a scoring margin deficit of -9 to a +4, and to the 1987 NFL Super Bowl. Then, there is the case of the Seahawks - a team that missed the playoffs while maintaining the best scoring margin of divisional teams. In 1987, Seattle and Denver will again be at the top, with improvement from Kansas City and Los Angeles.

Spread Records Indicate Best, Worst Change Directions at Midseason

More professional games are handicapped on the basis of past performance against the spread than all other methods and systems combined, and the reason is that the spread is easier to understand and apply. If a team is consistently beating the line, then it must be better than most anticipated, and any club that is stringing L's must be worse. However, handicapping only through spread records is not always conducive to continued success.

Over a period of time, spread records do have a tendency to even out; if a team is dynamic one season at home, there is a strong chance it will be just the reverse the following year. The line has the intended purpose of making all teams into .500 clubs within the scope of three or four years - a goal that is sufficiently but not totally attained.

If there is one lesson that can be learned from spread analysis, it could be captioned, "What goes up must come down." Even within a single season, the spread does have a tendency to balance itself out. As an example, seven NFL teams, in 1986, had either superior or inferior spread records at the halfway point, eight weeks. Those that had superior records lost ground in the last eight weeks while the inferior teams improved their W-L records.

The graphic, bottom of this page, shows the seven pro football teams with the abnormal records and how they changed in the last half of the year. Our spread analysis does not deal with W-L on a standard basis, instead changing the Wins into a numerical value of +1, losses evolve to -1, and ties remain as +0. Therefore, each week sees teams getting spread indexes; as an example, if the Bears, after four weeks, are 2-2 versus the line, their index would be +0.

The Broncos, upper right box, have had their 1986 spread log converted to a numerical value, under the "+1, -1 or 0" concept, and the team finished the season at +1. The high point, obviously, was a +5 in week nine and the low marks were posted both at season's beginning and end. The value of such interpretation is that the value can be graphed, and interesting motion developed.

The Spread at Work

Spread results will often illuminate the true quality of a team, but if the information is either mis-read or not fully understood, a false sense of strength will appear. As an example, America fell in love with the New York Jets during the early to middle going in 1986, seeing that the team was hovering near the Super Bowl with a 10-1 record. However, its Spread Rating, based on our numerical system, was only +1 at the same time.

The Jets were either facing lines that were too big or playing just well enough to win - but not cover. To some extent both sides of the statement are true. Lines in pro football or always smaller than in the college ranks, and this is because of schedule parity and shorter games.

The spread takes these two factors into consideration and that is why a mis-match in the pro ranks will be set at -14 whereas the same valued game in the NCAA might carry a line of -21. College games, as a reference point, average more plays from scrimmage because of first down clock stoppage, and this time extension benefits a heavy favorite who has more chances to run up the score.

Too frequently, handicappers note that a team is smashing the spread on a very consistent basis and expect it to continue. In pro football, the stronger a spread record gets, the greater chance it will plunge. Streaks occur in football, but not as apparent as in basketball or baseball where teams play far more games. As a team's performance against the line increases, so do the dollars spent in backing the club - and Las Vegas' Sports Books like the situation, and make you pay even a higher price than should be expected. Success, in the eyes of the strip oddsmaker, makes playing the teams more expensive, and the more successful a team is, the less value you are actually getting. Never equate "success and value" in the same terms.

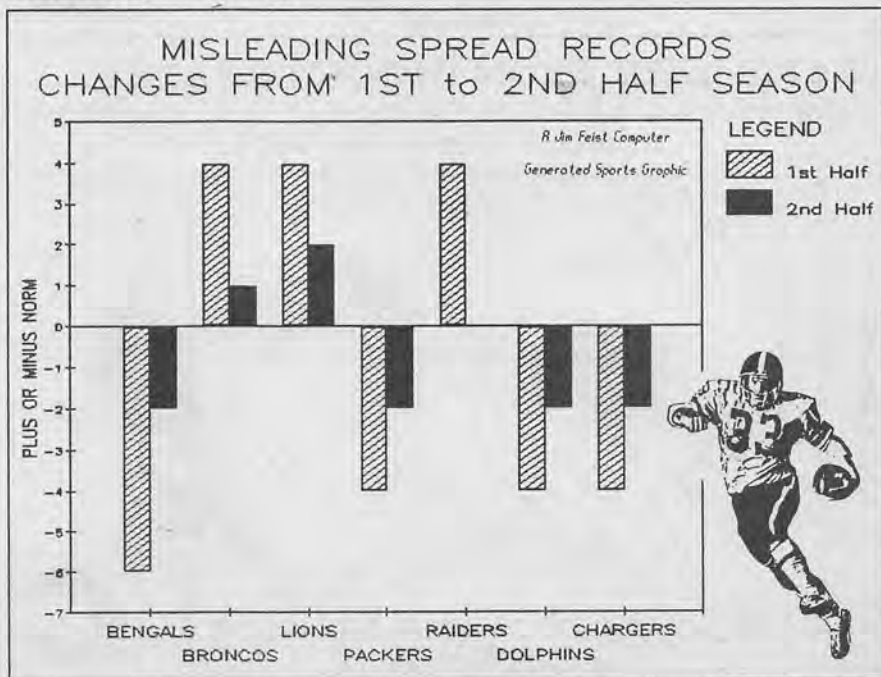
It is very rare when a team finishes with either an outstanding or very poor spread W-L mark, and with more and more free agent influence and teams going through

SPREAD INTO NUMERICAL VALUE

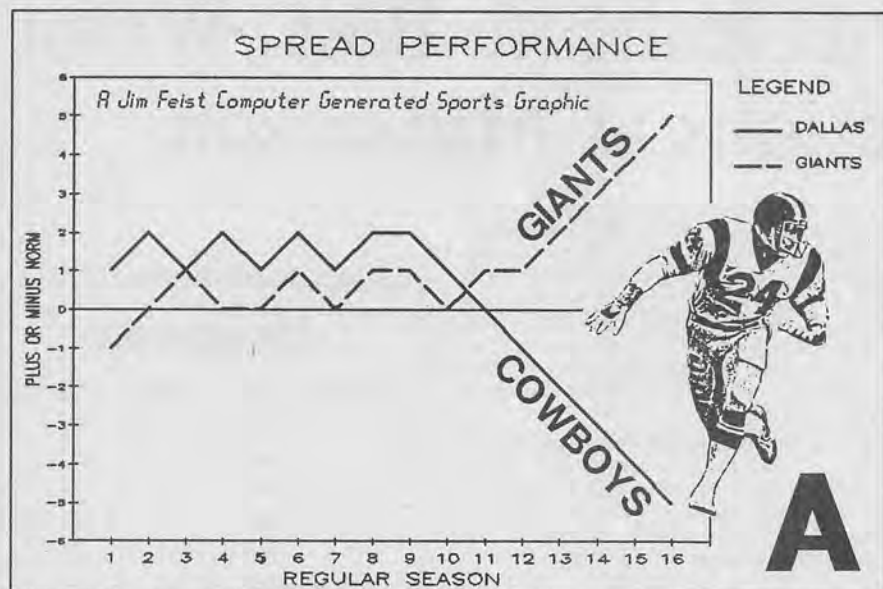
Broncos

Week	Spread	Value	Total
1	Lost	-1	-1
2	Won	+1	+0
3	Won	+1	+1
4	Won	+1	+2
5	Won	+1	+3
6	Won	+1	+4
7	Lost	-1	+3
8	Won	+1	+4
9	Won	+1	+5
10	Lost	-1	+4
11	Won	+1	+5
12	Tie	+0	+5
13	Lost	-1	+4
14	Lost	-1	+3
15	Lost	-1	+2
16	Lost	-1	+1

Seven 1986 NFL teams had abnormal spread records at the midpoint of the season, and in each case the second half was a "reversal." This graphic shows how the spread tends to balance out, even in the short duration. The Bengals went from -6 to -2, as an example, meaning that their spread record was 6 games below .500 after eight weeks, and improved to only two under .500 at the end. Changing spread W-L into numerical values provides researchers with flowing line charts.



MOMENTUM CHANGE AT SEASON'S END



personnel like Joan Collins does husbands, parity is always one or two players away. In 1986, using our numerical method, 75% of the teams were blocked in from +2 to -2.

Inside the workings of a season, spread fluctuation follows a number of patterns, and while exact movement cannot always be accurately forecast, you can usually presume that the best will slip, and the worst, climb. Remember, you get less value for success, and the opposite is true with the lower teams - particularly near the end of the year. The bottom rated clubs will get extra underdog points, and a team that is -5 to the spread at the season intermission becomes a very viable candidate for play the rest of the way home. It might not actually win more games, but will be getting unwarranted additional points when the line is posted.

The Spread Illustrated

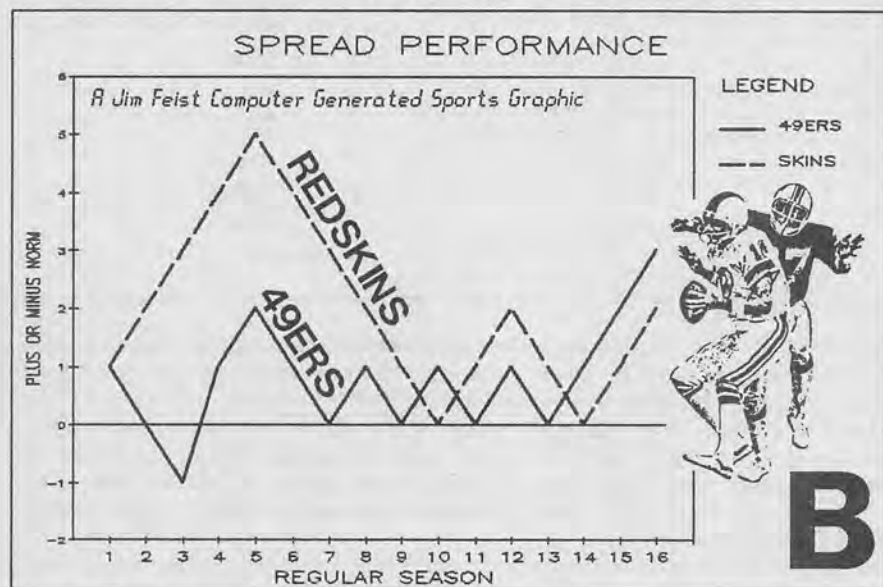
Six spread graphics will provide an insight to the various team patterns that emerge during a season. **Graphic-A** shows how teams can gain or lose momentum when the year comes down to its stretch run - the last five weeks. Both Dallas and the Giants were in a fairly stable pattern from the first week through the ninth when each dropped back to the +0 or norm point; however, Dallas continued its downward plunge whereas New York marched to the Super Bowl. The handicapping tip is to support teams that get back-to-back wins down the stretch, and go against any clubs that have L-L at this precise moment in the year. Team performance, against the line, appears to be more predictable in the final weeks than in the early ones.

Another example of team line movement is contained in **Graphic-B**, an illustration of teams that are above the +0 norm, one being prone to streaks while the other sets an established pattern. Knowing when to either back or lay off Washington is hard to ascertain, but the 49ers had a nifty up and down cycle - meaning a win is followed by a loss, which in turn is succeeded by another win. Teams that have these little mountain ranges are gems to locate - and they exist in every season.

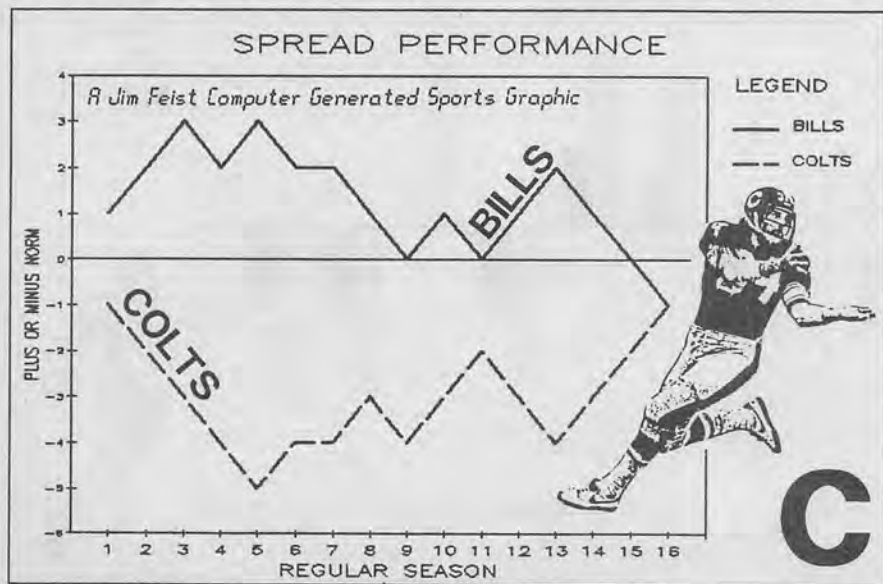
One of the most common trends is for teams to end the season at just about the same level they began, near the +0 mark. What they do during the course can vary, as **Graphic-C** reveals. Buffalo began the year with a +1, climbed to +3 and spent the next few weeks rising and falling before a skid back to the +0 norm. The Bills, subsequently, finished the season at -1 or two games below their start. On the other hand, Indianapolis got off to a -5 start, and slowly climbed up the spread trail. The Colts established a fairly good trend in the middle of the season, and put on the finishing touch with a three game win streak. While they ended, as they started, there was plenty of profit in the middle period.

Just because a team, such as the Colts or even the Bucs, is a whipping boy does not mean that you should not back it in certain games. Tampa did wind up the year at -4, second only to Dallas, as the NFL's worst team against the spread, but for most of the year Tampa was hovering between +1 and -1. Even in the lowest echelons, value does exist in professional football. The worse the record, the more points that are generated in your behalf.

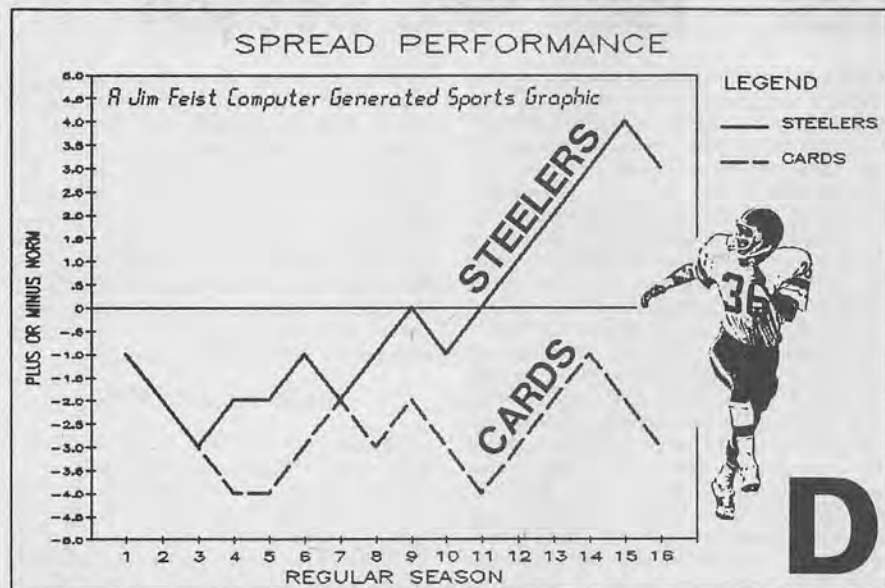
BOUNCING ALONG, ABOVE THE NORM



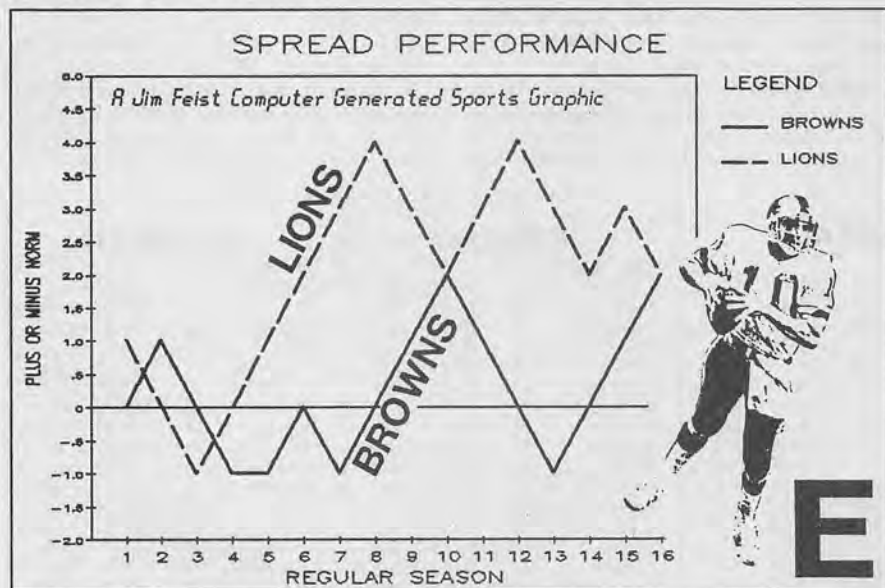
TEAMS MEET FROM OPPOSITE PATHS



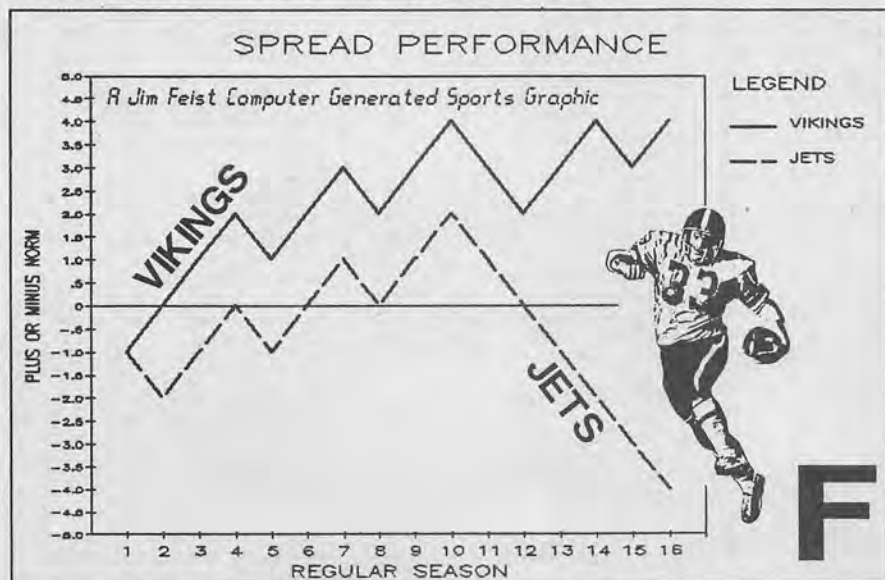
FROM NOWHERE TO A STRONG FINISH



STREAKING FROM BOTH SIDES



SIGNS OF SUCCESS, FAILURE



Pittsburgh and St. Louis had a lot in common after seven weeks of the 1986 NFL season. Each began at -1, or a loss in its first start, and followed that with a second setback for a two week -2. However, the Steelers then had better success against the line than did the Cards but the pair was equated at -2 after seven weeks. If you were keeping only W-L, without numerical valuation, you would not see that little spurt by Pittsburgh, and those spurts are often forewarnings of better things to come. From the 8th week on, each of these teams took a different direction. St. Louis played on an even keel, always negative, while Chuck Noll's team put together one of the best spread finishes in recent NFL history.

Graphic-D again stresses that any time a team is either +4 or -4 (as in this case), you can usually expect a change in direction. The Cards were -4 after five weeks, and went 3-3 in their next six. After the 11th week, the -4 level was reached again, and a win streak brought them up to -2. St. Louis did not appear to have enough talent to get any higher than -2 during the season, so when it reached that height, a decrease always followed.

Streaks do bring about quick changes in spread records, as evidenced in Graphic-E, which shows how both Cleveland and Detroit moved up and down with nearly reckless abandon. In looking back at 1986, if you were to be asked which team had the best value, Cleveland or Detroit - would you have selected Cleveland? Or Detroit? The Browns and Lions, as the graph shows, ended the season at the same point, +2 to the norm. How they got there was a matter of streaks, and these teams did not fluctuate in a W-L-W-L cycle; instead, they put their wins and losses in bunches, and this trend was very apparent after seven weeks - and it continued the remainder of the season. As you look at spread graphics, note the early pattern and see if it continues the remainder of the way.

Graphic-F is one of the more interesting ones in that it shows two teams that had an almost identical, somewhat predictable, pattern through 12 weeks. Minnesota and the Jets worked in a win two, then lose one, cycle - and it was very, very consistent. However, while the Vikings continued on the steady trend, New York went down the tubes. Minnesota kept the trend going, but the Jets broke the trend when they lost in week 13 - a week that normally called for a victory. When the pattern is broken, there is little left to work with.

Playing with the Spread

Handicapping via the spread will always be the most widely employed handicapping tool, and our article has touched on just one phase - team spread performance versus the league. The other aspect is when you study the spread on the basis of what each team does against others, rivals, home-away, inter- or intra-divisional. That will be touched on in our new weekly tabloid, *Sports 'n Gaming Weekly*, which can be ordered directly from Jim Feist Sports.

No matter how you use the spread, keep in mind that the desired result of the oddsmaker is to make you pay a very high price for success, and get all teams as close to the +0 level as is possible.

Final Statistics - 1986 NFL Season

Final regular season results, and "per game statistical averages" are revealed for all 28 NFL teams, in addition to some penetrating data points - Points Per 100 Yards and Mistakes. The first section gives 1986 final scores, game location, opening line, straightup and spread results.

As an example, Atlanta opened the season by playing the Saints on the Road (R), and was a three-and-a-half point dog (+3*), winning the game by 31-10. Therefore, the Falcons won "straightup," and the W preceding the "/" signifies this - and the W following the "/" records the spread result.

Locations will be either H or R, as there are no true neutral sites in the NFL, including Green Bay games in Milwaukee. A line with a PLUS (+) SIGN establishes the team as being an underdog and the numerical points assigned. A MINUS (-) is used when the team is a favorite, and if the game is a "tossup," a Pk will appear. An asterisk (*) is read as a half-point.

The log sections are followed by the first statistical reference to each NFL club - **Per Game Statistical Average** - a general breakdown of offense and defense categories. As a second example, Atlanta rushed 36 times in the average game, gaining 158 yards while opponents ran 30 times for an average of 120 yards.

The next segment shows the **Average**

Yards Per rushing attempt, passing attempt, all plays from scrimmage, and pass completion - both offense and defense. The Falcons, in 1986, gained an average of 4.4 yards on each rushing attempt, and allowed 4.0. For every pass attempted, Atlanta gained 5.7 yards, and opponents, 6.6. When rushing and passing is coupled, the Falcons gained an average of 5.0 yards per play, opponents, 5.3. On each COMPLETED pass, Atlanta moved the ball an average of 10.5 yards, opponents, 12.4.

MEANINGFUL STATS is a unique team overview that shows the average number of plays, yards and turnovers for both the offense and defense. **Points per 100 Yards** is the most dynamic creation for analyzing a team's offensive punch and/or defensive liability. The "creative" stat informs researchers as to the number of points scored for each 100 yards gained or allowed. Atlanta scored 5.6 points for each 100 scrimmage yards it gained in 1986, while the opposition scored 5.3 points for every 100 yards. In comparison, the New York Giants scored 6.9 points for each 100, allowing 5.1. This "single" statistic does more to separate "good from bad" than any other solitary index.

MISTAKES is the number of things that a team does wrong during the course of a game; such as Incomplete or Intercepted Pass, Penalty, Fumble, etc.

Atlanta averaged 22 mistakes per game during 1986 while opponents committed 24 errors. Atlanta had an edge because its number of miscues was lower than its opponent's figure. The Giants, again as a reference, committed 23 mistakes while their foes had an average of 29 per game.

Through comparison of the various statistical references, a visual picture of each team can be drawn, and strengths and weaknesses quickly extracted. The data can also be used to answer a number of questions about the NFL, in general.

Handicapping the NFL

Handicapping the NFL is far different than the NCAA, mainly because of schedule variance. Pro football teams, after an extended period of time, play schedules that are approximately of the same quality - a factor that is missing in college action. Methods that are successful in the NCAA will probably not work as well in the professional ranks, but there is one thing that is critical in both factions - **DEFENSE!!!**

The rule of thumb in handicapping football is that, "Offense draws fans and fills both the stands and front office cash register - defense wins games." Ironically, they do not always go hand in hand, as many coaches rebuild the offense before

ATLANTA				BUFFALO				CHICAGO				CINCINNATI			
1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS			
Saints-R	+3*	31-10	W/W	Jets-H	+6	24-28	L/W	Browns-H	-10	41-31	W/T	Chiefs-R	-1	14-24	L/L
Cards-H	-3	33-13	W/W	Bengals-R	+6	33-36	L/W	Eagles-H	-16	13-10	W/L	Bills-H	-6	36-33	W/L
Cowboys-R	+8	37-35	W/W	Cards-H	-3*	17-10	W/W	Packers-R	-11	25-12	W/W	Browns-R	+4*	30-13	W/W
Bucs-R	-6	23-20	W/L	Chiefs-H	-2	17-20	L/L	Bengals-R	-4*	44-7	W/W	Bears-H	+4*	7-44	L/L
Eagles-H	-5	0-16	L/L	Jets-R	+7*	13-14	L/W	Vikings-H	-13	23-0	W/W	Packers-R	-7	34-28	W/L
Rams-H	+1	26-14	W/W	Dolphins-R	+7*	14-27	L/L	Oilers-R	-13	20-7	W/T	Steelers-H	-8*	24-22	W/L
49ers-H	+3	10-10	T/W	Colts-H	-11	24-13	W/T	Vikings-R	-9	7-23	L/L	Oilers-H	-6*	31-28	W/L
Rams-R	+4	7-14	L/L	Patriots-H	+7*	3-23	L/L	Lions-H	-15	13-7	W/L	Steelers-R	-4	9-30	L/L
Patriots-R	+9	17-25	L/W	Bucs-R	Pk	28-34	L/L	Rams-H	-9	17-20	L/L	Lions-R	+3	24-17	W/W
Jets-H	+3	14-28	L/L	Steelers-H	-1	16-12	W/W	Bucs-R	-11	23-3	W/W	Oilers-R	-3*	28-32	L/L
Bears-H	+6	10-13	L/W	Dolphins-H	+2	24-34	L/L	Falcons-R	-6	13-10	W/L	Seahawks-H	-3	34-7	W/W
49ers-R	+11	0-20	L/L	Patriots-R	+13	19-22	L/W	Packers-H	-14	12-10	W/L	Vikings-H	-3	24-20	W/W
Dolphins-R	+8	20-14	W/W	Chiefs-R	+7	17-14	W/W	Steelers-H	-10	13-10	W/L	Broncos-R	+7*	28-34	L/W
Colts-H	-12	23-28	L/L	Browns-H	+3	17-21	L/L	Bucs-H	-17	48-14	W/W	Patriots-R	+5	31-7	W/W
Saints-H	+1	9-14	L/L	Colts-R	-4	14-24	L/L	Lions-R	-10	16-13	W/L	Browns-H	-3*	3-34	L/L
Lions-R	+3	20-6	W/W	Oilers-R	+3	7-16	L/L	Cowboys-R	-3*	24-10	W/W	Jets-H	-7	52-21	W/W
PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE			
	Atl.	OPP.			Buf.	OPP.			Chi.	OPP.			Cin.	OPP.	
First Downs	19	17		First Downs	18	21		First Downs	19	15		First Downs	22	21	
Rushing Attempts	36	30		Rushing Attempts	26	29		Rushing Attempts	38	27		Rushing Attempts	33	32	
Rushing Yards	158	120		Rushing Yards	103	108		Rushing Yards	169	91		Rushing Yards	158	133	
Passes Completed	15	15		Passes Completed	18	21		Passes Completed	13	15		Passes Completed	18	17	
Passes Attempted	28	28		Passes Attempted	31	36		Passes Attempted	26	32		Passes Attempted	31	31	
Passing Yards	161	187		Passing Yards	210	238		Passing Yards	172	167		Passing Yards	247	197	
Passes Intercepted	1	1		Passes Intercepted	1	1		Passes Intercepted	2	2		Passes Intercepted	1	1	
Punts	5	5		Punts	5	5		Punts	4	6		Punts	4	5	
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	3-1	1-0		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1	
Penalties	6	7		Penalties	8	8		Penalties	6	7		Penalties	7	6	
Penalty Yards	48	52		Penalty Yards	55	69		Penalty Yards	48	54		Penalty Yards	53	52	
POINTS	18	18		POINTS	18	22		POINTS	22	12		POINTS	26	25	
AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER			
Rushing Attempt	4.4	4.0		Rushing Attempt	4.0	3.7		Rushing Attempt	4.5	3.4		Rushing Attempt	4.9	4.1	
Passing Attempt	5.7	6.6		Passing Attempt	6.7	6.7		Passing Attempt	6.7	5.2		Passing Attempt	8.0	6.4	
Rush-Pass Play	5.0	5.3		Rush-Pass Play	5.5	5.3		Rush-Pass Play	5.3	4.4		Rush-Pass Play	6.3	5.2	
Pass Completion	10.5	12.4		Pass Completion	11.4	11.1		Pass Completion	13.3	11.0		Pass Completion	13.8	11.3	
MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS			
Game Total Plays	64	58		Game Total Plays	57	65		Game Total Plays	64	59		Game Total Plays	64	63	
Game Total Yards	319	307		Game Total Yards	313	346		Game Total Yards	341	258		Game Total Yards	405	330	
Game Turnovers	2	2		Game Turnovers	2	1		Game Turnovers	3	3		Game Turnovers	2	2	
Points 100 Yards	5.6	5.9		Points 100 Yards	5.8	6.4		Points 100 Yards	6.5	4.7		Points 100 Yards	6.4	7.6	
MISTAKES	22	24		MISTAKES	26	24		MISTAKES	24	29		MISTAKES	24	23	
Straight Up Record	7-8-1			Straight Up Record	4-12-0			Straight Up Record	14-2-0			Straight Up Record	10-6-0		
versus the Spread	9-7-0			versus the Spread	7-8-1			versus the Spread	6-8-2			versus the Spread	7-9-0		

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CLEVELAND				DALLAS				DENVER				DETROIT			
1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS			
Bears-R	+10	31-41	L/T	Giants-H	+1	31-28	W/W	Raiders-H	-3	38-36	W/L	Vikings-R	+3	13-10	W/W
Oilers-R	+2	23-20	W/W	Lions-R	-3	31-7	W/W	Steelers-R	-5	21-10	W/W	Cowboys-H	+3	7-31	L/L
Bengals-H	-4	13-30	L/L	Falcons-H	-8	35-37	L/L	Eagles-R	-3	33-7	W/W	Bucs-H	-9	20-24	L/L
Lions-H	-9	24-21	W/L	Cards-R	-7	31-7	W/W	Patriots-H	-3	27-20	W/W	Browns-R	+9	21-24	L/W
Steelers-R	-3	27-24	W/T	Broncos-R	+5	14-29	L/L	Cowboys-H	-5	29-14	W/W	Oilers-H	-3	24-13	W/W
Chiefs-H	-4	20-7	W/W	Redskins-H	+1	30-6	W/W	Chargers-R	-6	31-14	W/W	Packers-R	-2	21-14	W/W
Packers-H	-13	14-17	L/L	Eagles-R	-5	17-14	W/L	Jets-R	-3	10-22	L/L	Rams-R	+7	10-14	L/W
Vikings-R	+3	23-20	W/W	Cards-H	-12	37-6	W/W	Seahawks-H	-5	20-13	W/W	Bears-R	+15	7-13	L/W
Colts-R	-7	24-9	W/W	Giants-R	+3	14-17	L/T	Raiders-R	+3	21-10	W/W	Bengals-H	-3	17-24	L/L
Dolphins-H	-3	26-16	W/W	Raiders-H	-3	13-17	L/L	Chargers-H	-12	3-9	L/L	Vikings-H	+3	10-24	L/L
Raiders-R	+7	14-27	L/L	Chargers-R	-6	24-21	W/L	Chiefs-H	-8	38-17	W/W	Eagles-R	+3	13-11	W/W
Steelers-H	-6	37-31	W/L	Redskins-R	+3	14-41	L/L	Giants-R	+3	16-19	L/T	Bucs-R	-3	38-17	W/W
Oilers-H	-7	13-10	W/L	Seahawks-H	-7	14-31	L/L	Bengals-H	-7	34-28	W/L	Packers-H	-6	40-44	L/L
Bills-R	-3	21-17	W/W	Rams-R	+4	10-29	L/L	Chiefs-R	-5	10-37	L/L	Steelers-R	+5	17-27	L/L
Bengals-R	+3	34-3	W/W	Eagles-H	-6	21-23	L/L	Redskins-H	-3	31-30	W/L	Bears-H	+10	13-16	L/W
Chargers-H	-8	47-17	W/W	Bears-H	+3	10-24	L/L	Seahawks-R	+3	16-41	L/L	Falcons-H	-3	6-20	L/L
PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE			
	Cle.	Opp.			Dal.	Opp.			Den.	Opp.			Det.	Opp.	
First Downs	19	19		First Downs	20	18		First Downs	20	18		First Downs	18	19	
Rushing Attempts	29	31		Rushing Attempts	28	31		Rushing Attempts	28	27		Rushing Attempts	29	32	
Rushing Yards	103	124		Rushing Yards	123	138		Rushing Yards	105	103		Rushing Yards	111	147	
Passes Completed	20	18		Passes Completed	20	14		Passes Completed	19	19		Passes Completed	18	17	
Passes Attempted	34	32		Passes Attempted	34	29		Passes Attempted	34	34		Passes Attempted	31	29	
Passing Yards	234	206		Passing Yards	219	174		Passing Yards	221	206		Passing Yards	174	175	
Passes Intercepted	1	1		Passes Intercepted	2	1		Passes Intercepted	1	1		Passes Intercepted	1	1	
Punts	5	5		Punts	5	5		Punts	5	5		Punts	5	4	
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	3-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1	
Penalties	6	6		Penalties	7	6		Penalties	7	8		Penalties	5	6	
Penalty Yards	50	47		Penalty Yards	58	51		Penalty Yards	57	64		Penalty Yards	41	49	
POINTS	24	19		POINTS	22	21		POINTS	24	20		POINTS	17	20	
AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER			
Rushing Attempt	3.5	4.0		Rushing Attempt	4.4	4.4		Rushing Attempt	3.7	3.8		Rushing Attempt	3.8	4.5	
Passing Attempt	7.0	6.4		Passing Attempt	6.4	6.0		Passing Attempt	6.4	6.1		Passing Attempt	5.6	6.0	
Rush-Pass Play	5.4	5.2		Rush-Pass Play	5.5	5.2		Rush-Pass Play	5.3	5.1		Rush-Pass Play	4.8	5.3	
Pass Completion	11.9	11.3		Pass Completion	11.0	12.3		Pass Completion	11.6	11.0		Pass Completion	9.7	10.0	
MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS			
Game Total Plays	63	63		Game Total Plays	62	60		Game Total Plays	62	61		Game Total Plays	60	61	
Game Total Yards	337	330		Game Total Yards	342	312		Game Total Yards	326	309		Game Total Yards	285	322	
Game Turnovers	2	2		Game Turnovers	3	2		Game Turnovers	2	2		Game Turnovers	2	2	
Points 100 Yards	7.1	5.8		Points 100 Yards	6.4	6.7		Points 100 Yards	7.4	6.5		Points 100 Yards	6.0	6.2	
MISTAKES	23	24		MISTAKES	27	24		MISTAKES	26	27		MISTAKES	22	22	
Straight Up Record	12-4-0			Straight Up Record	7-9-0			Straight Up Record	11-5-0			Straight Up Record	5-11-0		
versus the Spread	8-6-2			versus the Spread	5-10-1			versus the Spread	8-7-1			versus the Spread	9-7-0		

working on the defense. The primary reason is that reconstructing an offense is often easier than retrofitting a defense.

Evidence of defensive importance in professional football is alarming, and only through recognition of this will a handicapper move from the rear to the front. Creating working models from league statistics can provide a deeper understanding of both offense-defense, good teams versus bad teams - and, in the process, answer those questions that have constantly plagued most handicappers.

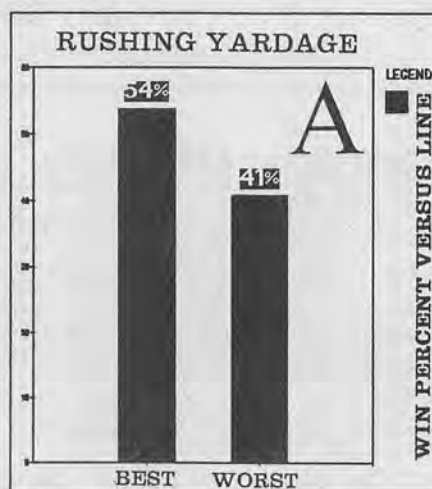
Rushing Insights

Is the best value in either backing the BEST rushing teams in pro football or is there better value in going against the worst? Too many handicappers render support for the top ground teams - and wonder, at season's end, why their W-L is not superlative. The facts speak for themselves.

The six best rushing teams, based on yards per game in 1986, were Chicago, Atlanta, Cincinnati, L. A. Rams, Seattle and New York Giants, and collectively, the group posted a 49-42 log against the spread. Contrast that accomplishment with the six WORST teams at stopping the run - Tampa Bay, Miami, Detroit, New England, St. Louis and Dallas. This porous contingent won only 39 of 94 spread decisions.

The Graphic-A shows what percent of winners you can expect when you either (1) back only the top rushing teams or (2)

go with the worst teams at stopping the run. It doesn't take very much time to discover that going AGAINST weak rush defense teams is going to generate winners at a 59% rate.



Closer inspection, however, reveals that only two of the BEST rushing clubs failed to break .500 against the spread - Chicago (6-8-2) and Cincinnati (7-9-0). The best of the half dozen was easily the Giants, posting a record of 9-4-3. Of the worst teams versus the run, only one - Detroit - was able to go above the board, ending at 9-7-0. The value in rushing statistics, therefore, appears to be - "Go Against Teams that Cannot Stop the Run!"

Passing Insights

If the rushing edge is to go against the weak defensive teams, how about passing? Does the same element hold true? The evidence is nearly as strong to follow the same procedure.

The six teams that gained the most average passing yards per game (Miami, New England, San Francisco, Cincinnati, Minnesota and Washington) had a combined spread record of 48-48 or 50% against the spread. (Graphic-B shows the total view.)

The six teams that had the worst defense against the pass managed to win



GREEN BAY			HOUSTON			INDIANAPOLIS			KANSAS CITY		
1986 RESULTS			1986 RESULTS			1986 RESULTS			1986 RESULTS		
Oilers-H	-4	3-31 L/L	Packers-R	+4	31-3 W/W	Patriots-R	+10	3-33 L/L	Bengals-H	+1	24-14 W/W
Saints-R	+3	10-24 L/L	Browns-H	-2	20-23 L/L	Dolphins-R	+14	10-30 L/L	Seahawks-R	+5	17-23 L/L
Bears-H	+11	12-25 L/L	Chiefs-R	+3	13-27 L/L	Rams-H	+8	7-24 L/L	Oilers-H	-3	27-13 W/W
Vikings-R	+6*	7-42 L/L	Steelers-H	-6	16-22 L/L	Jets-H	+10	7-26 L/L	Bills-R	+2	20-17 W/W
Bengals-H	+7	28-34 L/W	Lions-R	+3	13-24 L/L	49ers-R	+16	14-35 L/L	Raiders-H	+1	17-24 L/L
Lions-H	+2*	14-21 L/L	Bears-H	+13	7-20 L/T	Saints-H	+4	14-17 L/W	Browns-R	+4*	7-20 L/L
Browns-R	+13	17-14 W/W	Bengals-R	+6*	28-31 L/W	Bills-R	+11	13-24 L/T	Chargers-H	-6	42-41 W/L
49ers-H	+9	17-31 L/L	Raiders-H	+6*	17-28 L/L	Dolphins-H	+10	13-17 L/W	Bucs-H	-9	27-20 W/L
Steelers-R	+5	3-27 L/L	Dolphins-R	+8	7-28 L/L	Browns-H	+7	9-24 L/L	Chargers-R	+2	24-23 W/W
Redskins-H	+10	7-16 L/W	Bengals-H	+3*	32-28 W/W	Patriots-H	+14	21-30 L/W	Seahawks-H	-1	27-7 W/W
Bucs-H	-4	31-7 W/W	Steelers-R	+4*	10-21 L/L	Jets-R	+17	16-31 L/W	Broncos-R	+8	17-38 L/L
Bears-R	+14	10-12 L/W	Colts-H	-7	31-17 W/W	Oilers-R	+7	17-31 L/L	Cards-R	-3*	14-23 L/L
Lions-R	+6	44-40 W/W	Browns-R	+7	10-13 L/W	Chargers-H	+7	3-17 L/L	Bills-H	-7	14-17 L/L
Vikings-H	+3	6-32 L/L	Chargers-R	+7	0-27 L/L	Falcons-R	+12	28-23 W/W	Broncos-H	+5	37-10 W/W
Bucs-R	-4	21-7 W/W	Vikings-H	+7	23-10 W/W	Bills-H	+4	24-14 W/W	Raiders-R	+6*	20-17 W/W
Giants-R	+13	24-55 L/L	Bills-H	-3	16-7 W/W	Raiders-R	+10	30-24 W/W	Steelers-R	+2	24-19 W/W
PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE			PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE			PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE			PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE		
	G.B.	OPP.		Hou.	OPP.		Ind.	OPP.		K.C.	OPP.
First Downs	18	20	First Downs	19	18	First Downs	17	21	First Downs	17	19
Rushing Attempts	27	35	Rushing Attempts	31	33	Rushing Attempts	25	32	Rushing Attempts	27	30
Rushing Yards	101	131	Rushing Yards	106	127	Rushing Yards	93	123	Rushing Yards	92	109
Passes Completed	19	17	Passes Completed	18	14	Passes Completed	19	19	Passes Completed	16	19
Passes Attempted	35	28	Passes Attempted	34	31	Passes Attempted	37	32	Passes Attempted	33	36
Passing Yards	215	183	Passing Yards	216	187	Passing Yards	201	234	Passing Yards	172	200
Passes Intercepted	2	1	Passes Intercepted	2	1	Passes Intercepted	2	1	Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	5	4	Punts	6	6	Punts	5	4	Punts	6	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1	Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1	Fumbles-Lost	3-1	3-1	Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	8	5	Penalties	8	5	Penalties	6	6	Penalties	6	7
Penalty Yards	59	41	Penalty Yards	63	42	Penalty Yards	55	44	Penalty Yards	52	62
POINTS	16	26	POINTS	17	21	POINTS	14	25	POINTS	22	20
AVERAGE YARDS PER			AVERAGE YARDS PER			AVERAGE YARDS PER			AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	3.8	3.7	Rushing Attempt	3.5	3.8	Rushing Attempt	3.7	3.8	Rushing Attempt	3.4	3.6
Passing Attempt	6.1	6.5	Passing Attempt	6.3	6.1	Passing Attempt	5.5	7.3	Passing Attempt	5.3	5.6
Rush-Pass Play	5.1	5.0	Rush-Pass Play	5.0	4.9	Rush-Pass Play	4.7	5.6	Rush-Pass Play	4.4	4.7
Pass Completion	11.3	10.9	Pass Completion	12.0	13.2	Pass Completion	10.7	12.2	Pass Completion	10.7	10.5
MEANINGFUL STATS			MEANINGFUL STATS			MEANINGFUL STATS			MEANINGFUL STATS		
Game Total Plays	62	63	Game Total Plays	65	64	Game Total Plays	62	64	Game Total Plays	60	66
Game Total Yards	316	314	Game Total Yards	322	314	Game Total Yards	294	357	Game Total Yards	264	309
Game Turnovers	3	2	Game Turnovers	3	2	Game Turnovers	3	2	Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	5.1	8.3	Points 100 Yards	5.3	6.7	Points 100 Yards	4.8	7.0	Points 100 Yards	8.3	6.5
MISTAKES	29	20	MISTAKES	30	25	MISTAKES	30	23	MISTAKES	26	29
Straight Up Record	4-12-0		Straight Up Record	5-11-0		Straight Up Record	3-13-0		Straight Up Record	10-6-0	
versus the Spread	7-9-0		versus the Spread	7-8-1		versus the Spread	7-8-1		versus the Spread	8-8-0	

only 40 of 94 verdicts. These clubs included Miami, N. Y. Jets, Buffalo, Tampa Bay, Indianapolis and San Diego. Not a single member of the WORST group was above .500 against the spread while half of the BEST made it.

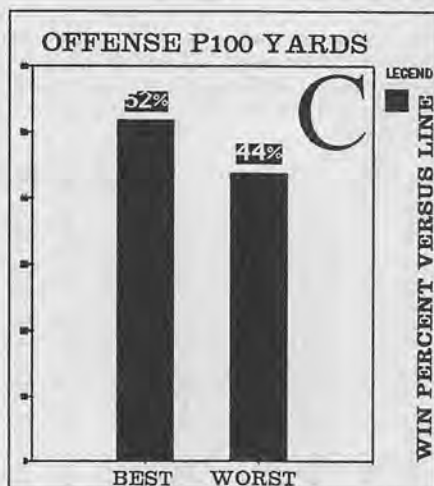
After examining rushing and passing, the finding is that you cannot be hurt by backing the best rushing and passing teams - however, the real success is in locating teams that cannot stop either the run or pass and go AGAINST THEM, on a consistent basis. While you, admittedly, will be laying double digits more often than you desire, the W-L will overpower your unwillingness.

Overall, playing against the worst defensive teams, in these two areas, would have given handicappers a record of 109-79 or 57.9 percent ATS (against the spread). And one of the strongest supporting factors to this theory is that past research has indicated the trend seems to springboard from one season to the next.

Points Per 100 Yards

If the conjecture that defense is more important than offense and going against the worst is better than supporting the best has still not convinced you, then let "Points per 100 Yards" speak. Graphics C and D show the spread win percentage of both the best and worst in terms of offense and defense.

On offense, the four best teams at converting yards into points ended with a spread record of 40-37 or 52% while the



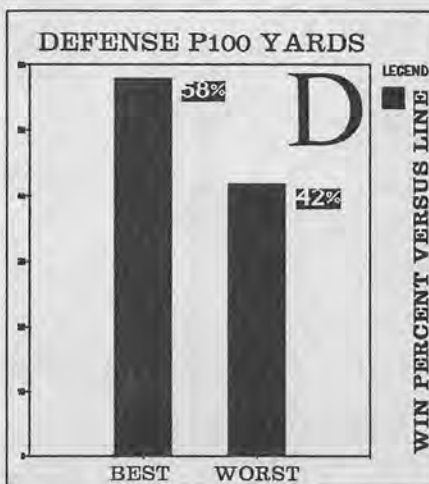
worst had a 27-34 ledger, 44%. The defensive picture is equally as positive; the best teams at preventing turning yards into points amassed a powerful 34-25 (58%) ATS whereas the worst could win only 27 of 64 or 42%.

When using Points per 100 Yards (P100Y), the distance from the top to the bottom will not be very great. In fact, the 1986 offensive leader (Kansas City) had a rating of 8.3 and the worst team (Indianapolis) 4.8 - or a gap of only 3.5 points. Therefore, when splitting teams into research groups you must create smaller divisions.

The method to develop a P100Y rating

for a team is to divide the points scored by yards gained, and then multiply by 100. This will give you a workable index as to team strength on both offense and defense. Points per 100 Yards is powerful because it takes many hidden factors into consideration, such as turnovers, sacks, field position, breaks, bad calls, etc. There is no other single football statistic that is more investigative.

And, as Graphics C-D reveal, handicapping success lies in backing good defenses and going against teams with poor offense and defense grades. Pro football handicapping is really no more than understanding the basics of the game.



L. A. RAIDERS				L. A. RAMS				MIAMI				MINNESOTA			
1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS			
Broncos-R	+3	36-38	L/W	Cards-R	-2*	16-10	W/W	Chargers-R	-1*	28-50	L/L	Lions-H	-3*	10-13	L/L
Redskins-H	+2	6-10	L/L	49ers-H	+2	16-13	W/W	Colts-H	-14	30-10	W/W	Bucs-R	-2	23-10	W/W
Giants-H	-3	9-14	L/L	Colts-R	-8	24-7	W/W	Jets-R	-2	45-51	L/L	Steelers-H	-5	31-7	W/W
Chargers-H	-3*	17-13	W/W	Eagles-R	-6	20-34	L/L	49ers-H	-3	16-31	L/L	Packers-H	-6*	42-7	W/W
Chiefs-R	-1	24-17	W/W	Bucs-H	-11	26-20	W/L	Patriots-R	+6*	7-34	L/L	Bears-R	+13	0-23	L/L
Seahawks-H	-3*	14-10	W/W	Falcons-R	-1	14-26	L/L	Bills-H	-7*	27-14	W/W	49ers-H	+10	27-24	W/W
Dolphins-R	-1	30-28	W/W	Lions-H	-7*	14-10	W/L	Raiders-H	+1	28-30	L/L	Bears-H	+9	23-7	W/W
Oilers-R	-6*	28-17	W/W	Falcons-H	-4	14-7	W/W	Colts-R	-10	17-13	W/L	Browns-H	-3*	20-23	L/L
Broncos-H	-3*	10-21	L/L	Bears-R	+9	20-17	W/W	Oilers-H	-8	28-7	W/W	Redskins-R	+7	38-44	L/W
Cowboys-R	+3	17-13	W/W	Saints-R	-3	0-6	L/L	Browns-R	+3	16-26	L/L	Lions-R	-3	24-10	W/W
Browns-H	-7	27-14	W/W	Patriots-H	+2*	28-30	L/W	Bills-R	-2	34-24	W/W	Giants-H	+1*	20-22	L/L
Chargers-R	-7	37-31	W/L	Saints-H	-7	26-13	W/W	Jets-H	+2	45-3	W/W	Bengals-R	+3	20-24	L/L
Eagles-H	-11	27-33	L/L	Jets-R	+2	17-3	W/W	Falcons-H	-8	14-20	L/L	Bucs-H	-13	45-13	W/W
Seahawks-R	-2*	0-37	L/L	Cowboys-H	-4*	29-10	W/W	Saints-R	+3*	31-27	W/W	Packers-R	-3	32-6	W/W
Chiefs-H	-6*	17-20	L/L	Dolphins-H	-6	31-37	L/L	Rams-R	+6	37-31	W/W	Oilers-R	-7	10-23	L/L
Colts-H	-10	24-30	L/L	49ers-R	+4*	14-24	L/L	Patriots-H	-3	27-34	L/L	Saints-H	-3	33-17	W/W
PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE			
	Raid	OPP.			Rams	OPP.			Mia.	OPP.			Min.	OPP.	
First Downs	19	18		First Downs	17	17		First Downs	23	22		First Downs	20	18	
Rushing Attempts	30	27		Rushing Attempts	36	29		Rushing Attempts	23	36		Rushing Attempts	29	30	
Rushing Yards	112	108		Rushing Yards	154	105		Rushing Yards	104	164		Rushing Yards	109	112	
Passes Completed	18	17		Passes Completed	12	20		Passes Completed	26	19		Passes Completed	18	17	
Passes Attempted	33	31		Passes Attempted	25	34		Passes Attempted	43	32		Passes Attempted	32	31	
Passing Yards	219	192		Passing Yards	137	199		Passing Yards	315	239		Passing Yards	245	201	
Passes Intercepted	2	2		Passes Intercepted	1	2		Passes Intercepted	2	1		Passes Intercepted	1	2	
Punts	6	6		Punts	6	6		Punts	4	4		Punts	5	5	
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	3-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1	
Penalties	7	7		Penalties	5	6		Penalties	5	5		Penalties	6	6	
Penalty Yards	59	54		Penalty Yards	38	50		Penalty Yards	39	38		Penalty Yards	56	50	
POINTS	20	22		POINTS	19	17		POINTS	29	27		POINTS	25	17	
AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER			
Rushing Attempt	3.8	3.9		Rushing Attempt	4.3	3.7		Rushing Attempt	4.6	4.5		Rushing Attempt	3.8	3.7	
Passing Attempt	6.6	6.1		Passing Attempt	5.5	5.9		Passing Attempt	7.4	7.4		Passing Attempt	7.5	6.5	
Rush-Pass Play	5.3	5.2		Rush-Pass Play	4.8	4.8		Rush-Pass Play	6.4	5.9		Rush-Pass Play	5.8	5.1	
Pass Completion	12.5	11.4		Pass Completion	11.3	10.2		Pass Completion	12.2	12.3		Pass Completion	13.5	11.7	
MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS			
Game Total Plays	63	58		Game Total Plays	61	63		Game Total Plays	66	68		Game Total Plays	61	61	
Game Total Yards	331	300		Game Total Yards	291	304		Game Total Yards	419	403		Game Total Yards	354	313	
Game Turnovers	4	3		Game Turnovers	2	3		Game Turnovers	3	2		Game Turnovers	2	3	
Points 100 Yards	6.0	7.3		Points 100 Yards	6.5	5.6		Points 100 Yards	6.9	6.7		Points 100 Yards	7.1	5.4	
MISTAKES	28	27		MISTAKES	22	25		MISTAKES	28	21		MISTAKES	24	25	
Straight Up Record	8-8-0			Straight Up Record	10-6-0			Straight Up Record	8-8-0			Straight Up Record	9-7-0		
versus the Spread	8-8-0			versus the Spread	9-7-0			versus the Spread	7-9-0			versus the Spread	10-6-0		

1986 NFL FOOTBALL

The NFL Weekly Diary is a composite statistical review of the 1986 regular season. Games are listed in chronological order and include: (1) The final Score (F); (2) Total Plays (TP); (3) Total Yards (TY), and (4) Turnovers (TO).

Weekly Results Diary

Week No. 1					Week No. 2					Week No. 3					Week No. 4				
S. Francisco	F	TP	TY	TO	N. England	F	TP	TY	TO	Atlanta	F	TP	TY	TO	Atlanta	F	TP	TY	TO
Tampa Bay	31	78	525	2	NY Jets	20	69	265	1	Dallas	37	66	420	1	Tampa Bay	23	83	490	2
	7	60	282	7		6	55	221	3		35	55	415	4		20	57	322	1
Detroit	13	67	303	1	Buffalo	33	58	378	2	Denver	33	59	328	1	Chicago	44	61	476	2
Minnesota	10	55	275	2	Cincinnati	36	63	412	3	Philadelphia	7	60	317	3	Cincinnati	7	63	338	5
LA Rams	16	66	269	3	Cleveland	23	54	267	0	Houston	13	69	274	3	Detroit	21	78	333	0
St. Louis	10	56	247	2	Houston	20	71	405	5	Kansas City	27	56	223	1	Cleveland	24	50	254	1
Atlanta	31	74	442	2	Dallas	31	68	388	2	LA Rams	24	66	316	2	Green Bay	7	52	220	4
N. Orleans	10	53	176	2	Detroit	7	51	184	3	Indianapolis	7	52	177	2	Minnesota	42	62	383	1
Cleveland	31	64	349	1	Green Bay	10	77	358	7	Miami	45	67	485	3	Kansas City	20	60	330	1
Chicago	41	64	367	1	N. Orleans	24	52	289	3	NY Jets	51	67	581	4	Buffalo	17	59	366	4
Houston	31	75	375	1	Indianapolis	10	56	253	2	N. Orleans	17	38	229	1	LA Rams	20	66	320	3
Green Bay	3	47	224	2	Miami	30	57	388	1	S. Francisco	26	86	461	1	Philadelphia	34	71	395	1
Philadelphia	14	61	267	2	Kansas City	17	50	265	3	NY Giants	14	55	334	2	N. England	20	60	224	1
Washington	41	71	433	1	Seattle	23	71	331	1	LA Raiders	9	63	318	2	Denver	27	63	338	2
NY Jets	28	60	390	0	LA Raiders	6	67	266	3	Pittsburgh	7	54	235	3	N. Orleans	17	45	196	1
Buffalo	24	61	368	2	Washington	10	49	271	2	Minnesota	31	59	412	1	NY Giants	20	74	388	3
Cincinnati	14	62	283	3	Minnesota	23	57	242	0	St. Louis	10	73	381	1	NY Jets	26	69	251	5
Kansas City	24	64	325	3	Tampa Bay	10	58	239	3	Buffalo	17	38	176	1	Indianapolis	7	77	282	3
Miami	28	51	339	4	Philadelphia	10	70	247	6	Seattle	38	52	303	0	Pittsburgh	22	79	375	2
San Diego	50	81	500	0	Chicago	13	66	344	4	N. England	31	78	514	1	Houston	16	73	281	3
LA Raiders	36	62	427	3	St. Louis	13	52	265	2	Tampa Bay	24	56	253	1	San Diego	13	70	256	4
Denver	38	62	290	1	Washington	33	67	345	0	Detroit	20	70	379	5	LA Raiders	17	61	377	5
Pittsburgh	0	59	146	5	San Diego	7	56	265	7	Washington	30	66	421	1	S. Francisco	31	63	314	1
Seattle	30	66	374	2	NY Giants	20	83	391	1	San Diego	27	68	351	3	Miami	16	73	337	4
Indianapolis	3	58	284	3	S. Francisco	13	52	325	2	Cincinnati	30	63	399	1	Seattle	14	59	361	2
N. England	33	68	373	0	LA Rams	16	51	192	0	Cleveland	13	64	338	1	Washington	19	67	357	1
NY Giants	28	73	416	2	Denver	21	67	326	1	Chicago	25	58	296	2	Dallas	31	59	287	2
Dallas	31	62	392	2	Pittsburgh	10	63	236	3	Green Bay	12	62	278	2	St. Louis	7	60	225	4

NEW ENGLAND				NEW ORLEANS				NEW YORK GIANTS				NEW YORK JETS			
1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS			
Colts-H	-10	33-3	W/W	Falcons-H	-3*	10-31	L/L	Cowboys-R	-1	28-31	L/L	Bills-R	-6	28-24	W/L
Jets-R	+1*	20-6	W/W	Packers-H	-3	24-10	W/W	Chargers-H	-3*	20-7	W/W	Patriots-H	-1*	6-20	L/L
Seahawks-H	-6	31-38	L/L	49ers-R	+11	17-26	L/W	Raiders-R	+3	14-9	W/W	Dolphins-H	+2	51-45	W/W
Broncos-R	+3	20-27	L/L	Giants-R	+11	17-20	L/W	Saints-H	-11	20-17	W/L	Colts-R	-10	26-7	W/W
Dolphins-H	-6*	34-7	W/W	Redskins-H	+7	6-14	L/L	Cards-R	-7	13-6	W/T	Bills-H	-7*	14-13	W/L
Jets-H	-7	24-31	L/L	Colts-R	-4	17-14	W/L	Eagles-H	-7	35-3	W/W	Patriots-R	+7	31-24	W/W
Steelers-R	-7	34-0	W/W	Bucs-H	-5	38-7	W/W	Seahawks-R	+3	12-17	L/L	Broncos-H	+3*	22-10	W/W
Bills-R	-7*	23-3	W/W	Jets-R	+9	23-28	L/W	Redskins-H	-3*	27-20	W/W	Saints-H	-9	28-23	W/L
Falcons-H	-9	25-17	W/L	49ers-H	+6	23-10	W/W	Cowboys-H	-3	17-14	W/T	Seahawks-R	+4	38-7	W/W
Colts-R	-14	30-21	W/L	Rams-H	+3	6-0	W/W	Eagles-R	-3*	17-14	W/L	Falcons-R	-3	28-14	W/W
Rams-R	-2*	30-28	W/L	Cards-R	-3	16-7	W/W	Vikings-R	-1*	22-20	W/W	Colts-H	-17	31-16	W/L
Bills-H	-13	22-19	W/L	Rams-R	+7	13-26	L/L	Broncos-H	-3	19-16	W/T	Dolphins-R	-2	3-45	L/L
Saints-R	-3	21-20	W/L	Patriots-H	+3	20-21	L/W	49ers-R	+3*	21-17	W/W	Rams-H	-2	3-17	L/L
Bengals-H	-5	7-31	L/L	Dolphins-H	-3*	27-31	L/L	Redskins-R	+3*	24-14	W/W	49ers-R	+6	10-24	L/L
49ers-H	+2*	24-29	L/L	Falcons-R	-1	14-9	W/W	Cards-H	-10	27-7	W/W	Steelers-H	-6*	24-45	L/L
Dolphins-R	+3	34-27	W/W	Vikings-R	+3	17-33	L/L	Packers-H	-13	55-24	W/W	Bengals-R	+7	21-52	L/L
PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE			
	N.E.	OPP.			N.O.	OPP.			NYG	OPP.			NYJ	OPP.	
First Downs	21	19		First Downs	17	21		First Downs	20	18		First Downs	20	22	
Rushing Attempts	32	33		Rushing Attempts	32	30		Rushing Attempts	35	22		Rushing Attempts	31	28	
Rushing Yards	94	145		Rushing Yards	130	97		Rushing Yards	140	80		Rushing Yards	108	104	
Passes Completed	23	17		Passes Completed	15	21		Passes Completed	16	21		Passes Completed	21	22	
Passes Attempted	37	32		Passes Attempted	27	36		Passes Attempted	30	37		Passes Attempted	34	38	
Passing Yards	264	203		Passing Yards	167	221		Passing Yards	196	217		Passing Yards	228	274	
Passes Intercepted	1	1		Passes Intercepted	2	2		Passes Intercepted	1	2		Passes Intercepted	1	1	
Punts	6	6		Punts	5	5		Punts	5	6		Punts	5	5	
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1	
Penalties	6	7		Penalties	7	7		Penalties	6	8		Penalties	8	6	
Penalty Yards	42	54		Penalty Yards	53	49		Penalty Yards	46	61		Penalty Yards	61	50	
POINTS	28	21		POINTS	18	18		POINTS	23	15		POINTS	23	24	
AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER			
Rushing Attempt	2.9	4.4		Rushing Attempt	4.1	3.2		Rushing Attempt	4.0	3.7		Rushing Attempt	3.5	3.7	
Passing Attempt	7.2	6.3		Passing Attempt	6.3	6.2		Passing Attempt	6.6	5.9		Passing Attempt	6.8	7.3	
Rush-Pass Play	5.2	5.4		Rush-Pass Play	5.0	4.8		Rush-Pass Play	5.2	5.0		Rush-Pass Play	5.2	5.7	
Pass Completion	11.7	11.7		Pass Completion	11.5	10.7		Pass Completion	12.1	10.4		Pass Completion	10.9	12.6	
MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS			
Game Total Plays	69	65		Game Total Plays	59	66		Game Total Plays	65	59		Game Total Plays	65	66	
Game Total Yards	358	348		Game Total Yards	297	318		Game Total Yards	336	297		Game Total Yards	336	378	
Game Turnovers	2	2		Game Turnovers	3	3		Game Turnovers	2	3		Game Turnovers	2	2	
Points 100 Yards	7.8	6.0		Points 100 Yards	6.1	5.7		Points 100 Yards	6.9	5.1		Points 100 Yards	6.9	6.4	
MISTAKES	24	27		MISTAKES	24	27		MISTAKES	23	29		MISTAKES	25	27	
Straight Up Record	11-5-0			Straight Up Record	7-9-0			Straight Up Record	14-2-0			Straight Up Record	10-6-0		
versus the Spread	6-10-0			versus the Spread	10-6-0			versus the Spread	9-4-3			versus the Spread	6-10-0		

1986 NFL Football

Weekly Diary of Pro Results

Week No. 5					Week No. 6					Week No. 7					Week No. 8				
	F	TP	TY	TO		F	TP	TY	TO		F	TP	TY	TO		F	TP	TY	TO
Philadelphia	16	62	309	1	Buffalo	17	56	305	4	Chicago	7	42	190	2	Atlanta	7	49	151	3
Atlanta	0	61	228	3	Miami	27	70	447	3	Minnesota	23	63	376	1	LA Rams	14	62	335	5
Washington	14	65	299	0	Chicago	20	69	360	2	Green Bay	17	56	360	1	Cincinnati	9	57	371	2
N. Orleans	6	52	237	1	Houston	7	58	283	1	Cleveland	14	59	265	2	Pittsburgh	30	63	332	0
Miami	7	45	251	3	Denver	31	72	403	1	S. Francisco	10	62	254	3	Cleveland	23	49	199	2
N. England	34	67	429	0	San Diego	14	50	358	2	Atlanta	10	87	356	5	Minnesota	20	70	396	2
Cleveland	27	56	270	3	Detroit	21	71	338	1	Dallas	17	60	389	2	Detroit	7	49	214	3
Pittsburgh	24	63	308	4	Green Bay	14	54	279	2	Philadelphia	14	55	317	0	Chicago	13	64	252	3
Minnesota	0	50	159	3	Kansas City	7	47	126	2	Tampa Bay	7	49	228	5	LA Raiders	28	73	352	2
Chicago	23	68	370	3	Cleveland	20	63	356	1	N. Orleans	38	73	450	2	Houston	17	60	335	5
LA Raiders	24	58	270	2	LA Rams	14	53	290	3	Indianapolis	13	69	297	2	Miami	17	71	340	0
Kansas City	17	55	181	2	Atlanta	26	64	275	2	Buffalo	24	56	364	3	Indianapolis	13	60	303	1
Tampa Bay	20	57	234	1	Minnesota	27	61	351	3	Detroit	10	76	372	3	N. England	23	65	303	1
LA Rams	26	65	357	2	S. Francisco	24	71	413	2	LA Rams	14	49	200	2	Buffalo	3	57	224	4
Cincinnati	34	71	378	1	N. Orleans	17	62	305	3	NY Giants	12	63	307	4	N. Orleans	23	64	327	3
Green Bay	28	56	328	2	Indianapolis	14	70	182	4	Seattle	17	49	218	2	NY Jets	28	66	281	2
NY Giants	13	49	144	1	NY Jets	31	75	322	0	Houston	28	51	233	3	St. Louis	6	48	200	1
St. Louis	6	62	241	2	N. England	24	52	400	2	Cincinnati	31	65	412	1	Dallas	37	77	445	1
Houston	13	62	454	1	Philadelphia	3	45	117	2	LA Raiders	30	62	315	0	San Diego	7	65	259	3
Detroit	24	61	234	1	NY Giants	35	76	394	1	Miami	28	45	330	4	Philadelphia	23	66	251	2
Indianapolis	14	68	323	5	St. Louis	30	65	434	1	St. Louis	21	49	252	1	S. Francisco	31	53	222	3
S. Francisco	35	53	358	1	Tampa Bay	19	61	347	0	Washington	28	55	354	3	Green Bay	17	92	464	4
Dallas	24	65	266	3	Seattle	10	50	211	0	N. England	34	60	317	1	Seattle	13	51	214	0
Denver	29	62	319	2	LA Raiders	14	61	323	2	Pittsburgh	0	62	168	4	Denver	20	66	450	2
Buffalo	13	63	320	1	Washington	6	47	184	3	San Diego	41	95	512	5	Tampa Bay	20	52	216	2
NY Jets	14	64	382	1	Dallas	30	71	424	2	Kansas City	42	48	222	1	Kansas City	27	61	355	2
San Diego	7	53	271	5	Pittsburgh	22	70	288	1	Denver	10	54	270	3	Washington	20	58	410	2
Seattle	34	81	512	3	Cincinnati	24	60	359	1	NY Jets	22	66	211	0	NY Giants	27	67	397	0

PHILADELPHIA				PITTSBURGH				ST. LOUIS				SAN DIEGO			
1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS			
Redskins-R	+6	14-41	L/L	Seahawks-R	+6	0-30	L/L	Rams-H	+2*	10-16	L/L	Dolphins-H	+1*	50-28	W/W
Bears-R	+16	10-13	L/W	Broncos-H	+5*	10-21	L/L	Falcons-R	+3	13-33	L/L	Giants-R	+3*	7-20	L/L
Broncos-H	+3*	7-33	L/L	Vikings-R	+5	7-31	L/L	Bills-R	+3*	10-17	L/L	Redskins-H	-3	27-30	L/L
Rams-H	+6	34-20	W/W	Oilers-R	+6	22-16	W/W	Cowboys-H	+7	7-31	L/L	Raiders-R	+3*	13-17	L/L
Falcons-R	+5*	16-0	W/W	Browns-H	+3	24-27	L/T	Giants-H	+7	6-13	L/T	Seahawks-R	+7	7-33	L/L
Giants-R	+7	3-35	L/L	Bengals-R	+8*	22-24	L/W	Bucs-R	+3	30-19	W/W	Broncos-H	+6	14-31	L/L
Cowboys-H	+5*	14-17	L/W	Patriots-H	+7	0-34	L/L	Redskins-R	+13	21-28	L/W	Chiefs-R	+6	41-42	L/W
Chargers-H	-4	23-7	W/W	Bengals-H	+4	30-9	W/W	Cowboys-R	+12	6-37	L/L	Eagles-R	+4	7-23	L/L
Cards-R	-2*	10-13	L/L	Packers-H	-5	27-3	W/W	Eagles-H	+2*	13-10	W/W	Chiefs-H	-2	23-24	L/L
Giants-H	+3*	14-17	L/W	Bills-R	+1	12-16	L/L	49ers-R	+11	17-43	L/L	Broncos-R	+12	9-3	W/W
Lions-H	-3*	11-13	L/L	Oilers-H	-4*	21-10	W/W	Saints-H	+3	7-16	L/L	Cowboys-H	+6	21-24	L/W
Seahawks-R	+6	20-24	L/W	Browns-R	+6*	31-37	L/W	Chiefs-H	+3*	23-14	W/W	Raiders-H	+7	31-37	L/W
Raiders-R	+11	33-27	W/W	Bears-R	+10	10-13	L/W	Redskins-H	+7*	17-20	L/W	Colts-R	-7	17-3	W/W
Cards-H	-4*	10-10	T/L	Lions-H	-5	27-17	W/W	Eagles-R	+4*	10-10	T/W	Oilers-H	-7	27-0	W/W
Cowboys-R	+6*	23-21	W/W	Jets-R	+6*	45-24	W/W	Giants-R	+10	7-27	L/L	Seahawks-H	-2*	24-34	L/L
Redskins-H	+3	14-21	L/L	Chiefs-H	-2	19-24	L/L	Bucs-H	-12	21-17	W/L	Browns-R	+8	17-47	L/L
PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE			
First Downs	Phi	18	17	First Downs	Pit.	18	19	First Downs	Stl.	17	19	First Downs	S.D.	21	19
Rushing Attempts	Phi	31	29	Rushing Attempts	Pit.	35	29	Rushing Attempts	Stl.	26	35	Rushing Attempts	S.D.	29	30
Rushing Yards	Phi	125	124	Rushing Yards	Pit.	139	117	Rushing Yards	Stl.	112	139	Rushing Yards	S.D.	99	105
Passes Completed	Phi	17	16	Passes Completed	Pit.	15	19	Passes Completed	Stl.	18	13	Passes Completed	S.D.	21	18
Passes Attempted	Phi	32	33	Passes Attempted	Pit.	31	34	Passes Attempted	Stl.	32	27	Passes Attempted	S.D.	38	32
Passing Yards	Phi	159	202	Passing Yards	Pit.	162	211	Passing Yards	Stl.	170	165	Passing Yards	S.D.	236	231
Passes Intercepted	Phi	1	1	Passes Intercepted	Pit.	1	1	Passes Intercepted	Stl.	1	1	Passes Intercepted	S.D.	2	1
Punts	Phi	7	6	Punts	Pit.	6	5	Punts	Stl.	6	5	Punts	S.D.	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	Phi	2-1	2-1	Fumbles-Lost	Pit.	2-1	2-1	Fumbles-Lost	Stl.	2-1	3-1	Fumbles-Lost	S.D.	2-1	3-1
Penalties	Phi	6	7	Penalties	Pit.	7	7	Penalties	Stl.	7	5	Penalties	S.D.	7	7
Penalty Yards	Phi	56	55	Penalty Yards	Pit.	53	55	Penalty Yards	Stl.	58	42	Penalty Yards	S.D.	61	57
POINTS	Phi	16	20	POINTS	Pit.	19	21	POINTS	Stl.	14	22	POINTS	S.D.	21	25
AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER			
Rushing Attempt	Phi	4.0	4.3	Rushing Attempt	Pit.	3.9	4.0	Rushing Attempt	Stl.	4.3	4.0	Rushing Attempt	S.D.	3.4	3.5
Passing Attempt	Phi	4.9	6.1	Passing Attempt	Pit.	5.3	6.3	Passing Attempt	Stl.	5.3	6.1	Passing Attempt	S.D.	6.3	7.3
Rush-Pass Play	Phi	4.5	5.3	Rush-Pass Play	Pit.	4.6	5.2	Rush-Pass Play	Stl.	4.9	4.9	Rush-Pass Play	S.D.	5.0	5.4
Pass Completion	Phi	9.5	12.4	Pass Completion	Pit.	10.9	10.9	Pass Completion	Stl.	9.3	12.3	Pass Completion	S.D.	11.2	12.8
MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS			
Game Total Plays	Phi	63	62	Game Total Plays	Pit.	66	63	Game Total Plays	Stl.	58	62	Game Total Plays	S.D.	67	62
Game Total Yards	Phi	284	326	Game Total Yards	Pit.	301	328	Game Total Yards	Stl.	282	304	Game Total Yards	S.D.	335	336
Game Turnovers	Phi	2	2	Game Turnovers	Pit.	2	2	Game Turnovers	Stl.	2	2	Game Turnovers	S.D.	3	2
Points 100 Yards	Phi	5.6	6.1	Points 100 Yards	Pit.	6.3	6.4	Points 100 Yards	Stl.	5.0	7.2	Points 100 Yards	S.D.	6.3	7.4
MISTAKES	Phi	25	28	MISTAKES	Pit.	27	25	MISTAKES	Stl.	25	23	MISTAKES	S.D.	29	25
Straight Up Record	Phi	5-10-1		Straight Up Record	Pit.	6-10-0		Straight Up Record	Stl.	4-11-1		Straight Up Record	S.D.	4-12-0	
versus the Spread	Phi	9-7-0		versus the Spread	Pit.	9-6-1		versus the Spread	Stl.	6-9-1		versus the Spread	S.D.	7-9-0	

1986 NFL Football

Weekly Diary of Pro Results

Week No. 9					Week No. 10					Week No. 11					Week No. 12				
Atlanta	F	TP	TY	TO	Chicago	F	TP	TY	TO	Chicago	F	TP	TY	TO	LA Raiders	F	TP	TY	TO
N. England	25	66	366	1	Tampa Bay	23	62	434	1	Atlanta	13	61	368	3	San Diego	37	72	466	2
Buffalo	28	58	403	3	Cincinnati	3	63	272	2	Cleveland	14	54	217	2	Atlanta	0	56	229	1
Tampa Bay	34	56	304	0	Houston	32	75	358	1	LA Raiders	27	63	323	1	S. Francisco	20	70	365	0
Cincinnati	24	67	389	2	LA Raiders	17	56	246	4	Dallas	24	61	254	1	Buffalo	19	52	241	3
Detroit	17	59	365	2	Dallas	13	62	313	6	San Diego	21	68	307	2	N. England	22	64	261	1
Cleveland	24	51	259	0	LA Rams	0	62	172	4	Detroit	13	49	186	1	Dallas	14	54	251	3
Indianapolis	9	67	264	1	N. Orleans	6	53	236	5	Philadelphia	11	68	294	4	Washington	41	71	483	1
Dallas	14	66	408	3	Minnesota	24	70	432	3	Houston	10	64	291	2	Denver	16	70	405	4
NY Giants	17	55	245	3	Detroit	10	60	282	4	Pittsburgh	21	59	287	1	NY Giants	19	56	262	2
Denver	21	41	246	1	N. England	30	75	336	2	Indianapolis	16	80	408	6	Detroit	38	54	393	2
LA Raiders	10	74	407	6	Indianapolis	21	62	297	4	NY Jets	31	67	360	4	Tampa Bay	17	65	390	4
Green Bay	3	60	240	4	NY Giants	17	58	265	2	Kansas City	17	74	297	4	Green Bay	10	54	195	3
Pittsburgh	27	69	321	2	Philadelphia	14	54	237	2	Denver	38	63	265	2	Chicago	12	76	220	2
Houston	7	64	301	2	NY Jets	28	70	426	0	N. England	30	67	390	4	Indianapolis	17	58	242	2
Miami	28	58	345	3	Atlanta	14	56	393	2	LA Rams	28	59	369	2	Houston	31	74	471	3
Minnesota	38	62	526	3	Pittsburgh	12	54	185	1	Miami	34	78	474	0	Kansas City	14	68	291	4
Washington	44	72	487	1	Buffalo	16	64	248	1	Buffalo	24	50	261	1	St. Louis	23	60	254	2
NY Jets	38	71	553	0	St. Louis	17	67	364	4	NY Giants	22	63	383	2	Minnesota	20	62	284	1
Seattle	7	59	322	3	S. Francisco	43	55	460	1	Minnesota	20	56	353	1	Cincinnati	24	83	413	2
Philadelphia	10	52	228	0	San Diego	9	62	186	2	N. Orleans	16	52	258	0	N. Orleans	13	72	278	5
St. Louis	13	49	190	1	Denver	3	48	245	5	St. Louis	7	64	282	3	LA Rams	26	63	273	2
S. Francisco	10	60	349	4	Seattle	7	55	133	3	Seattle	7	66	306	5	Philadelphia	20	67	324	0
N. Orleans	23	55	291	1	Kansas City	27	78	375	4	Cincinnati	34	62	425	4	Seattle	24	53	340	3
Kansas City	24	55	282	4	Washington	16	57	254	1	Tampa Bay	7	56	263	3	Pittsburgh	31	61	344	1
San Diego	23	66	225	5	Green Bay	7	62	281	2	Green Bay	31	69	437	4	Cleveland	37	80	536	1
LA Rams	20	65	278	3	Miami	16	56	353	2	S. Francisco	6	78	501	4	NY Jets	3	47	280	4
Chicago	17	66	269	3	Cleveland	26	79	558	2	Washington	14	74	266	2	Miami	45	75	514	0

SAN FRANCISCO				SEATTLE				TAMPA BAY				WASHINGTON			
1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS			
Bucs-R	-10	31-7	W/W	Steelers-H	-6	30-0	W/W	49ers-H	+10	7-31	L/L	Eagles-H	-6	41-14	W/W
Rams-R	-2	13-16	L/L	Chiefs-H	-5	23-17	W/W	Vikings-H	+2	10-23	L/L	Raiders-H	-2	10-6	W/W
Saints-H	-11	26-17	W/L	Patriots-R	+6	38-31	W/W	Lions-R	+9	24-20	W/W	Chargers-R	+3	30-27	W/W
Dolphins-R	+3	31-16	W/W	Redskins-R	+4	14-19	L/L	Falcons-H	+6	20-23	L/W	Seahawks-H	-4	19-14	W/W
Colts-H	-16	35-14	W/W	Chargers-H	-7	33-7	W/W	Rams-R	+11	20-26	L/W	Saints-R	-7	14-6	W/W
Vikings-H	-10	24-27	L/L	Raiders-R	+3*	10-14	L/L	Cards-H	-3	19-30	L/L	Cowboys-R	-1	6-30	L/L
Falcons-R	-3	10-10	T/L	Giants-H	-3	17-12	W/W	Saints-R	+5	7-38	L/L	Cards-H	-13	28-21	W/L
Packers-R	-9	31-17	W/W	Broncos-R	+5*	13-20	L/L	Chiefs-R	+9	20-27	L/W	Giants-R	+3*	20-27	L/L
Saints-R	-6	10-23	L/L	Jets-H	-4	7-38	L/L	Bills-H	Pk	34-28	W/W	Vikings-H	-7	44-38	W/L
Cards-H	-11	43-17	W/W	Chiefs-R	+1	7-27	L/L	Bears-H	+11	3-23	L/L	Packers-R	-10	16-7	W/L
Redskins-R	+2	6-14	L/L	Bengals-R	+3	7-34	L/L	Packers-R	+4	7-31	L/L	49ers-H	-2	14-6	W/W
Falcons-H	-11	20-0	W/W	Eagles-H	-6	24-20	W/L	Lions-H	+3*	17-38	L/L	Cowboys-H	-3	41-14	W/W
Giants-H	-3*	17-21	L/L	Cowboys-R	+7*	34-14	W/W	Vikings-R	+13	13-45	L/L	Cards-R	-7*	20-17	W/L
Jets-H	-6	24-10	W/W	Raiders-H	+2*	37-0	W/W	Bears-R	+17	14-48	L/L	Giants-H	-3*	14-24	L/L
Patriots-R	-2*	29-24	W/W	Chargers-R	+2*	34-24	W/W	Packers-H	+4	7-21	L/L	Broncos-R	+3*	30-31	L/W
Rams-H	-4*	24-14	W/W	Broncos-H	-3*	41-16	W/W	Cards-R	+12	17-21	L/W	Eagles-R	-3	21-14	W/W
PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE			
	S.F.	OPP.			Sea.	OPP.			T.B.	OPP.			Wash	OPP.	
First Downs	20	18		First Downs	18	19		First Downs	17	23		First Downs	20	20	
Rushing Attempts	32	25		Rushing Attempts	32	29		Rushing Attempts	28	35		Rushing Attempts	30	29	
Rushing Yards	124	97		Rushing Yards	144	110		Rushing Yards	116	166		Rushing Yards	108	113	
Passes Completed	22	20		Passes Completed	17	19		Passes Completed	15	18		Passes Completed	17	19	
Passes Attempted	36	38		Passes Attempted	28	33		Passes Attempted	29	30		Passes Attempted	34	33	
Passing Yards	256	208		Passing Yards	194	224		Passing Yards	156	230		Passing Yards	242	218	
Passes Intercepted	1	2		Passes Intercepted	1	1		Passes Intercepted	2	1		Passes Intercepted	1	1	
Punts	5	6		Punts	5	5		Punts	5	4		Punts	5	6	
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	1-1	
Penalties	6	6		Penalties	6	5		Penalties	5	7		Penalties	6	7	
Penalty Yards	43	41		Penalty Yards	51	41		Penalty Yards	41	59		Penalty Yards	54	64	
POINTS	23	15		POINTS	23	18		POINTS	15	30		POINTS	23	19	
AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER			
Rushing Attempt	3.9	3.8		Rushing Attempt	4.5	3.7		Rushing Attempt	4.1	4.8		Rushing Attempt	3.7	3.9	
Passing Attempt	7.0	5.5		Passing Attempt	6.9	6.7		Passing Attempt	5.4	7.6		Passing Attempt	7.1	6.6	
Rush-Pass Play	5.6	5.5		Rush-Pass Play	5.6	5.4		Rush-Pass Play	4.8	6.1		Rush-Pass Play	5.5	5.3	
Pass Completion	11.6	10.3		Pass Completion	11.6	11.9		Pass Completion	10.2	12.8		Pass Completion	14.0	11.6	
MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS			
Game Total Plays	68	63		Game Total Plays	60	62		Game Total Plays	57	65		Game Total Plays	64	62	
Game Total Yards	380	305		Game Total Yards	338	334		Game Total Yards	272	396		Game Total Yards	350	331	
Game Turnovers	2	3		Game Turnovers	2	2		Game Turnovers	3	2		Game Turnovers	2	2	
Points 100 Yards	6.1	4.9		Points 100 Yards	6.8	5.4		Points 100 Yards	5.5	7.6		Points 100 Yards	6.6	5.7	
MISTAKES	24	29		MISTAKES	21	24		MISTAKES	23	23		MISTAKES	27	24	
Straight Up Record	10-5-1			Straight Up Record	10-6-0			Straight Up Record	2-14-0			Straight Up Record	12-4-0		
versus the Spread	9-7-0			versus the Spread	9-7-0			versus the Spread	6-10-0			versus the Spread	9-7-0		

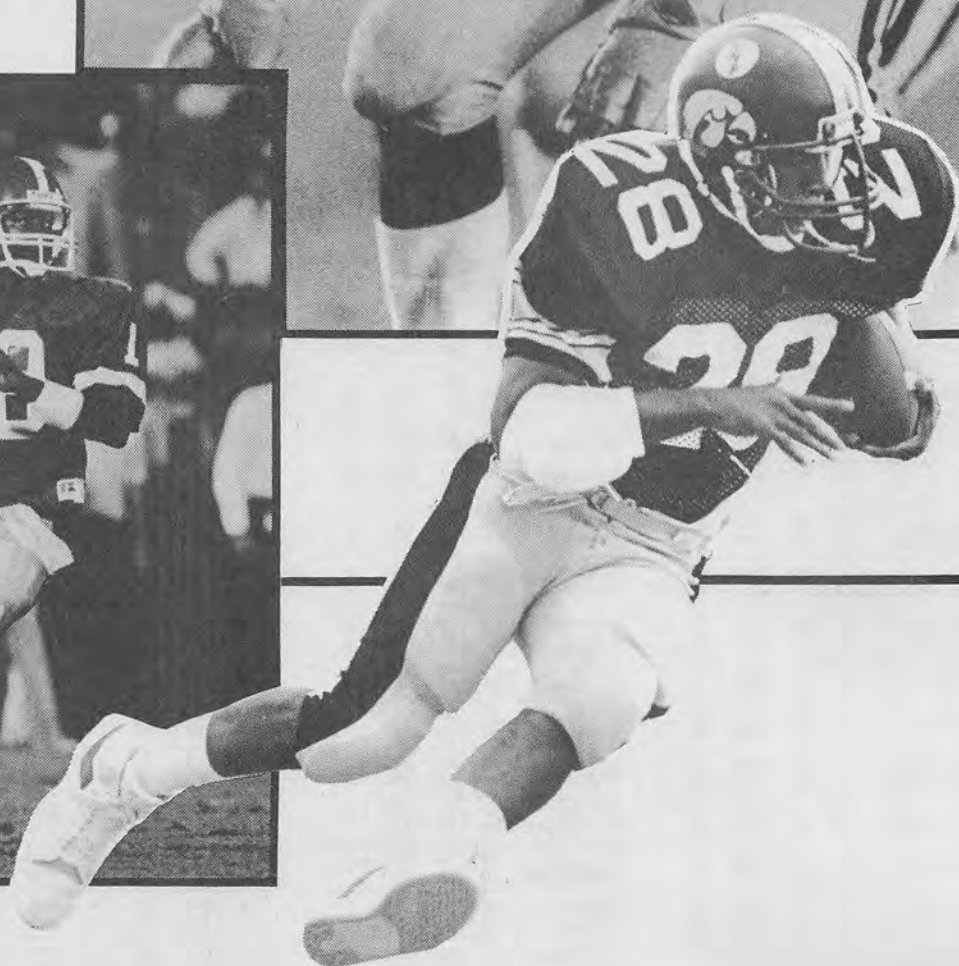
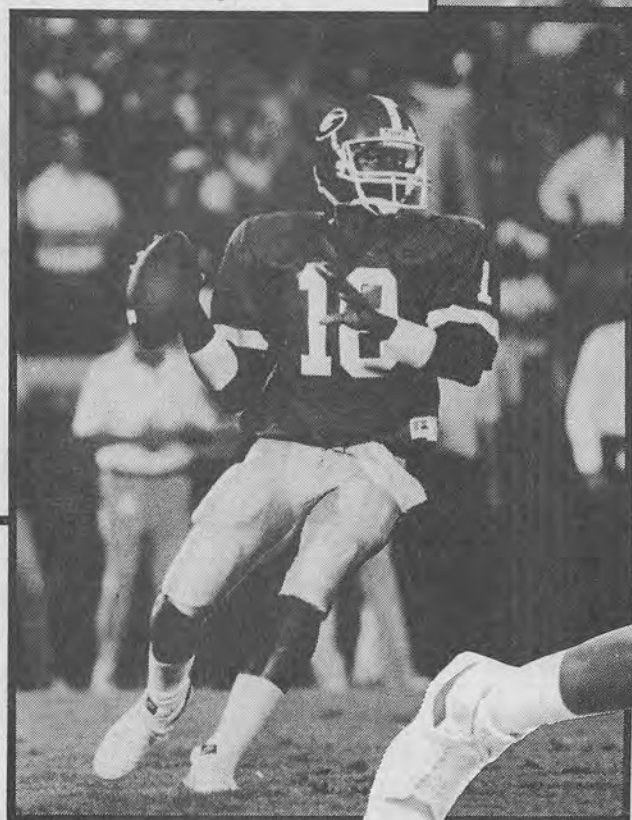
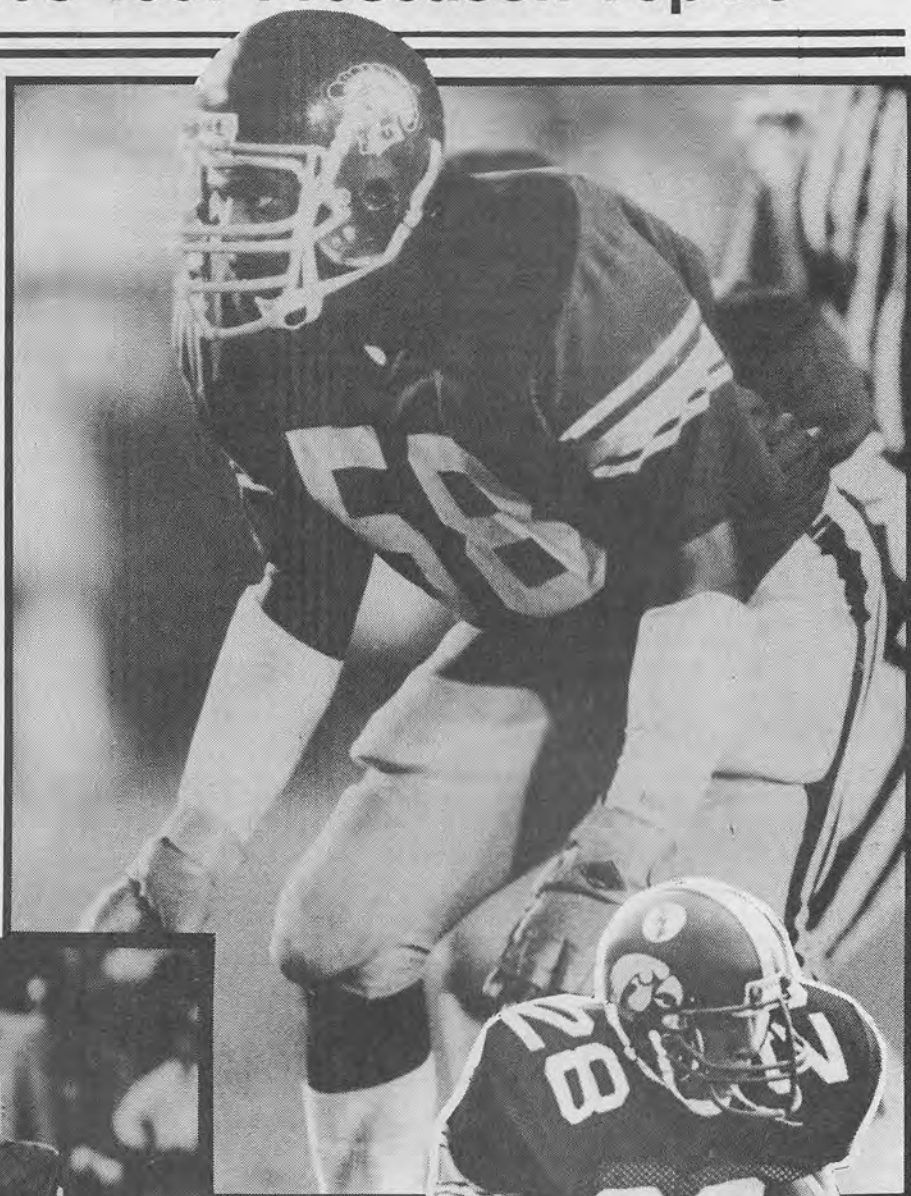
1986 NFL Football

Weekly Diary of Pro Results

Week No. 13					Week No. 14					Week No. 15					Week No. 16				
	F	TP	TY	TO		F	TP	TY	TO		F	TP	TY	TO		F	TP	TY	TO
Green Bay	44	52	367	3	Cincinnati	31	73	584	1	Washington	30	64	412	0	LA Rams	14	57	229	3
Detroit	40	72	338	2	N. England	7	60	291	2	Denver	31	66	330	0	S. Francisco	24	81	416	2
Seattle	31	61	415	1	Cleveland	21	70	371	1	Pittsburgh	45	71	364	1	Green Bay	24	55	314	3
Dallas	14	62	328	1	Buffalo	17	61	391	3	NY Jets	24	65	369	4	NY Giants	55	72	448	2
Atlanta	20	58	362	1	Dallas	10	50	224	2	Seattle	34	66	426	0	Denver	16	64	268	0
Miami	14	59	375	4	LA Rams	29	68	418	2	San Diego	24	64	305	1	Seattle	41	61	536	1
Cincinnati	28	51	426	2	Denver	10	67	323	5	S. Francisco	29	73	400	1	Atlanta	20	61	238	1
Denver	34	79	401	0	Kansas City	37	58	169	1	N. England	24	57	287	3	Detroit	6	53	193	4
Houston	10	70	283	6	Detroit	17	55	281	3	Miami	37	67	506	2	Buffalo	7	60	278	2
Cleveland	13	83	345	4	Pittsburgh	27	78	421	3	LA Rams	31	62	372	1	Houston	16	58	278	0
LA Rams	17	57	293	0	Houston	0	43	134	3	Buffalo	14	52	358	3	Kansas City	24	45	171	1
NY Jets	3	71	350	4	San Diego	27	75	409	0	Indianapolis	24	63	375	0	Pittsburgh	19	83	515	2
N. England	21	56	231	2	Indianapolis	28	48	225	0	Kansas City	20	63	263	0	N. Orleans	17	58	267	6
N. Orleans	20	75	425	5	Atlanta	23	72	408	3	LA Raiders	17	57	265	7	Minnesota	33	69	395	1
Philadelphia	33	71	347	2	Miami	31	66	352	0	N. Orleans	14	61	241	1	NY Jets	21	50	199	3
LA Raiders	27	68	379	4	N. Orleans	27	70	526	2	Atlanta	9	57	247	3	Cincinnati	52	72	621	2
Pittsburgh	10	65	291	3	Minnesota	32	60	303	1	Cleveland	34	67	372	0	San Diego	17	57	333	4
Chicago	13	76	406	3	Green Bay	6	73	387	3	Cincinnati	3	64	283	3	Cleveland	47	66	462	2
San Diego	17	68	391	2	NY Giants	24	61	333	2	Philadelphia	23	61	323	2	Tampa Bay	17	67	243	3
Indianapolis	3	45	177	3	Washington	14	68	349	7	Dallas	21	59	445	2	St. Louis	21	57	265	3
Tampa Bay	13	54	267	3	NY Jets	10	57	199	3	Minnesota	10	64	301	5	Washington	21	57	264	4
Minnesota	45	61	463	0	S. Francisco	24	78	432	1	Houston	23	71	377	1	Philadelphia	14	64	259	0
Washington	20	75	353	1	St. Louis	10	74	461	1	St. Louis	7	48	184	2	Chicago	24	60	322	6
St. Louis	17	40	271	0	Philadelphia	10	77	354	1	NY Giants	27	68	313	2	Dallas	10	62	260	5
Buffalo	17	73	336	2	Tampa Bay	14	54	271	5	Green Bay	21	64	349	0	Indianapolis	30	61	411	2
Kansas City	14	71	346	3	Chicago	48	64	432	2	Tampa Bay	7	50	247	2	LA Raiders	24	66	423	3
NY Giants	21	57	397	3	LA Raiders	0	42	138	3	Chicago	16	66	280	4	N. England	34	74	390	2
S. Francisco	17	79	367	1	Seattle	37	66	407	1	Detroit	13	45	160	2	Miami	27	56	388	4

Jim Feist's 1987 Preseason Top 20

1. Oklahoma
2. Miami (Fla.)
3. Southern Cal
4. UCLA
5. Ohio State
6. Nebraska
7. Tennessee
8. Texas A&M
9. Arizona State
10. Notre Dame
11. Clemson
12. Penn State
13. Michigan
14. Iowa
15. Florida State
16. Auburn
17. Arkansas
18. Brigham Young
19. Georgia
20. Washington





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Jim Feist's 1987 Preseason All-America Team

Offense

QB	Kerwin Bell	Florida
RB	Gaston Green	UCLA
FB	Brad Muster	Stanford
TE	Keith Jackson	Oklahoma
WR	Tim Brown	Notre Dame
WR	Michael Irvin	Miami (Fla.)
C	Andy Sinclair	Stanford
OG	Randall McDaniel	Arizona State
OG	Harvey Galbreath	Tennessee
OT	Joel Porter	Baylor
OT	John Elliott	Michigan

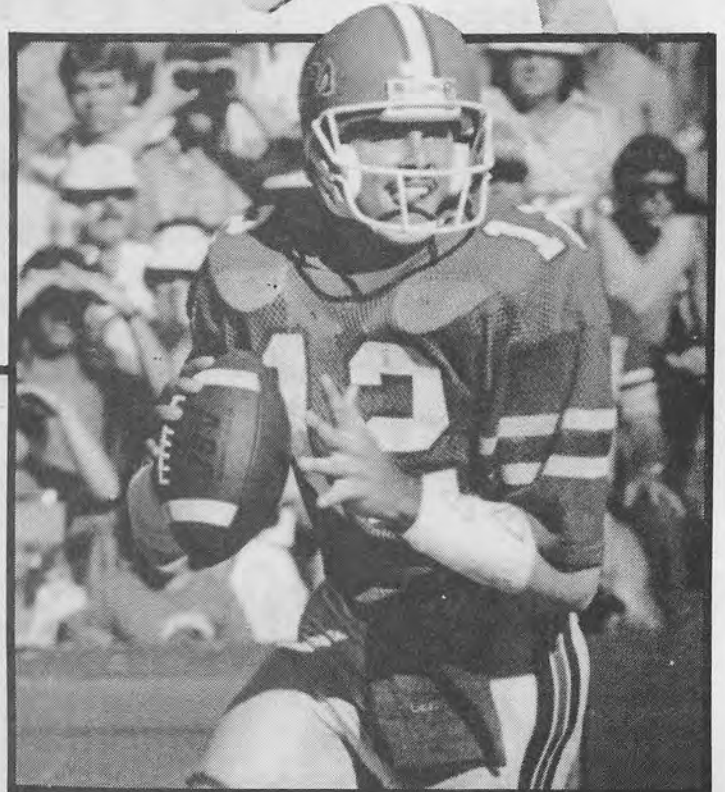


Defense

DE	Danny Stubbs	Miami (Fla.)
DT	Shawn Patterson	Arizona State
NT	Al Noga	Hawaii
OLB	Marcus Cotton	Southern Cal
OLB	Ken Harvey	California
ILB	Chris Spielman	Ohio State
ILB	Dante Jones	Oklahoma
DB	Benny Blades	Miami (Fla.)
DB	Deion Sanders	Florida State
DB	Kevin Porter	Auburn
DB	Ricky Dixon	Oklahoma

Specialists

P	Barry Helton	Colorado
PK	Marty Zendejas	Nevada-Reno



Atlantic Coast Conference

Predicted Finish

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Clemson | 5. Maryland |
| 2. No. Carolina | 6. Georgia Tech |
| 3. N.C. State | 7. Duke |
| 4. Virginia | 8. Wake Forest |

1986 Records

	Conf.	Overall
Clemson	5-1-1	8-2-2
North Carolina St.	5-2-0	8-3-1
North Carolina	5-2-0	7-4-1
Georgia Tech	3-3-0	5-5-1
Virginia	2-5-0	3-8-0
Wake Forest	2-5-0	5-6-0
Duke	2-5-0	4-7-0
Maryland	2-3-1	5-5-1

Clemson

The defending Atlantic Coast Conference champions have all the ingredients needed to defend their title and, as a bonus, get to play eight of their 11 games at home.

Clemson is coming off an 8-2-2 season that included a 5-1-1 record away from home, a Gator Bowl victory over Stanford and a No. 17 ranking by the Associated Press to go with its ACC title. Off recent ACC history, Clemson has a good chance of topping the field again.

"In the last few years, the ACC has gone in cycles," said coach Danny Ford, who has led Clemson to three ACC titles and four top 20 finishes. "In the last few years, teams seem to have two or three-year reigns as the top team in this league and I certainly hope that trend continues."

Clemson returns 48 letterman from last year's club, including 17 starters. The Tigers will be especially deep and talented in the offensive and defensive lines as nine of the 10 starting linemen return.

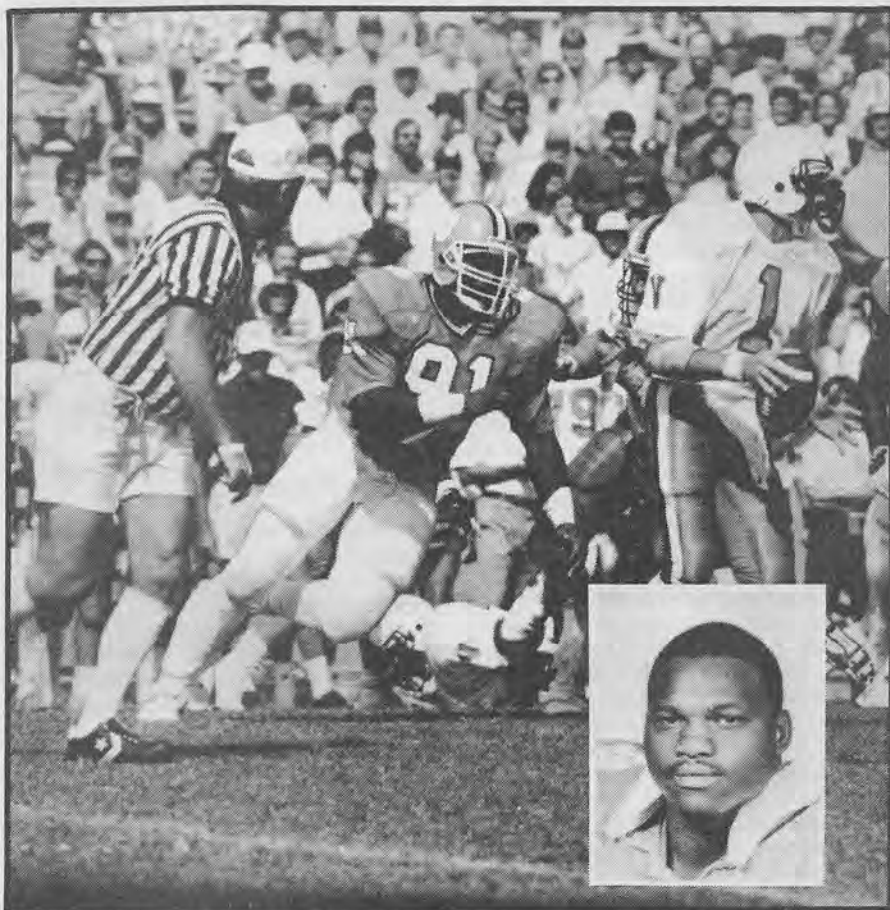
"Our No. 1 strength this season will be in terms of numbers," said Ford. "We should have some depth in that we have a number of people returning who have had competition on Saturday afternoons in the the fall. I truly believe that his could be the most powerful and talented group of linemen I have ever had at Clemson."

Refrigerator No. 2?

Senior Michael Dean Perry is an All-America candidate at defensive end. The 6-2, 270-pound brother of Chicago Bear DT William "The Refrigerator" Perry is chasing his brother's record at Clemson as well as his reputation.

He'll have to go some to top the Fridge's total of 60 career tackles for losses but, through his junior season, Michael Dean had recorded 37.

The comparisons between Michael



Like his brother, Michael Dean Perry makes an impact on every play

Dean and William are amazingly similar. For instance, both players had exactly 161 career tackles at the end of their respective junior seasons.

"Michael Dean could be the best defensive player we have had at Clemson if he improves his discipline on the field," said Ford. "He needs to worry about just his position and not everyone else's responsibility on the field. We'll look to him for leadership, and he must deliver that for us."

Clemson's most improved area on

the team might have been in the secondary last year. The Tigers led the league in completion-percentage defense as Tiger opponents completed just 48.2 percent of their passes last year, the only team in the conference to hold the opposition under 50 percent. Additionally, Clemson yielded the fewest yards per attempt in the ACC, just 5.93 yards per attempt.

Secondary coach Bill Oliver had the Tigers on a roll at the end of the season. Over the last five games,

Clemson opponents completed only 82-of-186 passes, just 44.0 percent. And they were not giving up yardage either, as they held opponents to just 5.8 yards per attempt.

Offensive front impressive

Clemson All-America RG John Phillips was the leader of the Clemson offensive line last season, the best young line in the school's history. Phillips is a prime reason Clemson rushed for over 3,000 yards in a regular season for only the second time in history.

He has started each of the last 10 games and Clemson has had at least 200 yards rushing in 19 of those games. Clemson has averaged 272.8 yards rushing per game since he moved into the starting lineup. Clemson had a streak of 14 straight 200-yard games during the stretch and it is no coincidence that the streak began when Phillips began starting.

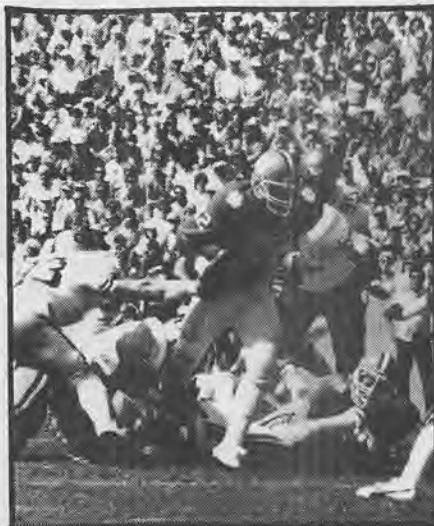
He is also a major reason Clemson averaged 270.4 yards a game rushing last season, the sixth-best figure in the nation. Phillips set a Clemson record for knockdown blocks in a season with 100. He was the first Clemson player regardless of position to get 100 in a season. He broke the record of 86 held by James Farr (1983) when he had six against South Carolina. The man he has been assigned to block has recorded only one sack in 20 games and none in the last 16.

"John Phillips has made himself a fine player with hard work," said Ford. "He started his career at Clemson as a linebacker and showed his athletic ability by moving to the offensive line for the good of the team. Now he is an All-American. If he plays every snap like we are behind, he will be the best offensive lineman we ever had."

Other returning starters on the offensive front include LG Pat Williams, C Jeff Bak and RT Frank Deluili. Junior RT Jeff Nunamacher is the only non-starter in the group that allowed only three sacks.

Clemson backers argue that no other team in the nation allowed fewer sacks, but really can't prove it because sacks allowed are not an official stat. QB Rodney Williams, who came on in the second half of the season after a dismal start, was sacked in the second quarter of the Georgia Tech game on September 27 and was not sacked again until the second quarter of the South Carolina game on November 22. That mark gives the Tiger offensive front quite a record to shoot for.

One area where the Tigers are sure to feel a loss is at the running back slot where Terrence Flagler and Kenny Flowers both had a tremendous impact the past two years. Flagler and Flowers combined for 4,214 rushing yards in '85 and '86, and freshman TB Terry Allen is expected to fill the starting role with a great deal of help from sophomore Wesley McFadden.



Clemson FB Tracy Johnson

Allen has been extremely impressive in the past. He made a fine pre-season showing in 1986 before he decided to redshirt. McFadden earned a letter at defensive back in 1985, but worked out at tailback last year and also decided to redshirt.

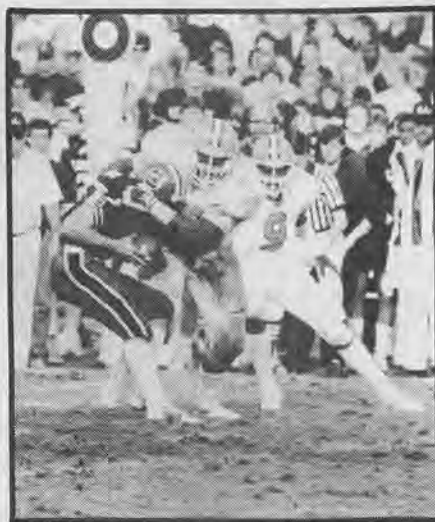
"Ford knows he will have to depend a great deal on FB's Chris Lancaster and Tracy Johnson, who have split the position for the last two years. The juniors combined for 737 yards and 10 TD's last season, but their average was under 3.5 yards per carry.

"One of our goals this year is to improve that mark," Ford said. "We've got to improve that effort to at least 4.0 per carry."

North Carolina

In one of the most underrated conferences in all of college football, the Tar Heels should challenge Clemson for the top spot.

QB Mark Maye heads a cast of 17 returning starters, and once again the Carolina offense looks potent. He will operate behind a veteran offensive line



Clemson DT Ray Chavous

and run an attack which features a number of other explosive weapons.

Defensively, Carolina has switched from the eight-man front it used a year ago to the 50 alignment with which it had so much success with in the early part of this decade. Nine starters are back from last year's unit which played well at times, but lacked the consistency needed of a truly great defense.

"We have the potential to be an outstanding football team," says coach Dick Crum. "But I've seen other teams with a lot of potential which haven't accomplished a lot. We must take advantage of what we have."

Maye is the key to Carolina's season. Last year he finished as the 12th-leading quarterback in the nation, even though he started only the last six games of the year. Maye still completed 110-of-176 passes for 1,401 yards and 10 touchdowns. Three times during the season he set school passing records.

North Carolina also produced the ACC's leading rusher in Derrick Fenner. He gained 1,250 yards in 10 games, including an ACC-record 328 yards against Virginia, the 11th-best single-game total in college history. Big and powerful, Fenner also has excellent speed and quickness. However, he may not be available this season due to academic problems.

Returning at fullback is James Thompson, a tough inside runner and a good blocker. Crum is also expecting to get production from Kennard Martin, a freshman who looked extremely good in spring practice.

As far as receivers go, Maye has two good ones in Eric Lewis and Rodney Marriott. Lewis, who is a dangerous punt returner, averaged 18.9 yards on 13 catches, averaging 17.2 per grab and scoring three times. Smith was the Tar Heels' No. 2 receiver with 17 catches (15.6 average and three TD's).

The offensive line could be one of the best ever at Carolina. Only one starter is missing from last year's group which helped the Tar Heels lead the ACC in total offense. Certainly, OT Harris Barton will be difficult to replace, but Darrell Hamilton, a 6-6, 280-pound junior from Washington D.C., will try. Other starters include Creighton Incorminias, Pat Crowley and Jeff Garnica.

The defensive line is led by Tim Goad, who won All-Conference honors at defensive tackle. Ruben Davis won the same honors in 1985 and should be ready. The big question mark on defense is at outside linebacker. Antonio Goss and John Reed will battle for the starting position, with Goss having the edge because of game experience.

Heading up the secondary is Derrick Donald at left cornerback. A 5-11, 195-pound senior from Lenoir, N.C., Donald tied for the conference lead in interceptions last season with six. He

should be one of the best defensive backs in college football.

Norris Davis returns at strong safety and Dan Vooletich will be back at free safety.

The kicking game will be handled by Kenny Miller, who averaged 39.4 yards per punt last season and also booted three field goals while sharing the placekicking duties. He will handle both tasks exclusively this year.

North Carolina State

The Wolfpack, without question, will be hard-pressed to match last season's 8-2-1 regular-season record, which earned them their first post-season bowl appearance since 1978.

First-year coach Dick Sheridan must be given credit for a great deal of the success, which came on the heels of three consecutive losing seasons of 3-8 each. But, a repeat performance of last year, or a mark even coming close, doesn't seem to be much of a possibility.

Graduation has taken its toll as 12 of the 22 starters, including All-Conference QB Erik Kramer and three key specialists — PK Mike Cofer, P Kelly Holodick and little-known but vitally important Gus Purcell, a four-year letterman who finished his career without a miscue.

"We not only lost an outstanding senior class," said Sheridan, "but we

lost a great deal in leadership. The seniors were a major part of last year's success. It will be difficult to replace them.

Other impact players that have left Raleigh include SE Haywood Jeffires, the Pack's all-time leading touchdown receiver, TE Ralph Britt, TB Frank Harris, DL Sandy Kean and Brian Bulluck, LB's Pat Teague and Kelvin Croom and CB's Derrick Taylor and Nelson Jones.

Junior Cam Young was Kramer's backup last year, but saw only minimal action and will be one of six candidates competing for the job in what should be a wide-open battle. Other aspirants for the position include Preston Poag, Joe Hollowell, Tony Grisson, Shane Montgomery and Dean Mason.

Offensive line talented

The team's strong suit should be the offensive line, where three of the five interior linemen return — Joey Page at tackle, Lenny Schultz at guard and Chuck Massaro at center — and all five from the second unit. Page, Schultz and Massaro should be in the hunt for All-Conference honors, as they have proven talent. If North Carolina State can get any kind of production from TB Bobby Crumpler and FB Mal Crite, the team's running game may surprise some people around the conference.

Another strong suit is WR Nasrallah



Wolfpack WR Naz Worthen

(Naz) Worthen, a dazzling blue-chip athlete who won All-Conference honors last season. Actually, he played in bonafide All-American fashion during the first six games of the season before being slowed down by a pulled hamstring. At the time of the injury, Worthen was leading the nation with an average of 106.5 yards in pass receptions per game.

Even with the hamstring injury, he finished the season with 41 receptions for 686 yards, a 16.7 per play average and four touchdowns. A big-play

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performer, he also ran for one touchdown from scrimmage and was a distinct threat on kick-off and punt returns before giving up those duties. Worthen set a single-game school record against Maryland for reception yards when he caught nine passes for 187 yards. He had eight catches for 160 yards and the winning TD in the Wolfpack's 35-34 upset of North Carolina.

Worthen closed the season with five catches for 70 yards and a touchdown against Virginia Tech in the Peach Bowl. "Naz had an outstanding year that would have been even more impressive had he not been injured at midseason," said Sheridan. "He is an outstanding receiver in every way. He has great hands, above-average speed and runs excellent routes. He also has the natural instincts of advancing the ball after he makes the catch. He's very dangerous in that respect. He's an exceptional leader and a very hard worker."

Defense needs rebuilding

Just as Sheridan has to find someone who can step in and fill the shoes of Kramer, he has to find the right people to step in and do the job on defense. Little or no experience will be available at the important inside LB and CB slots, where all four starters have departed.

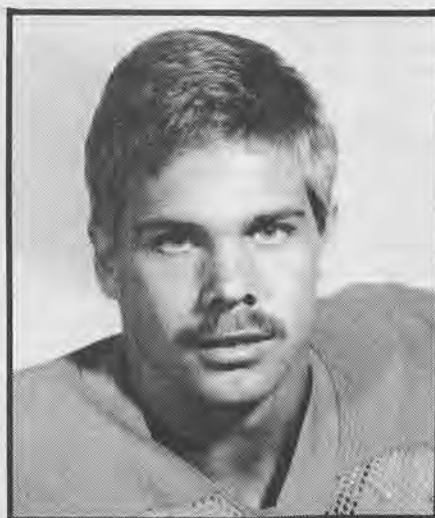
The picture is somewhat more encouraging along the defensive line, where Scott Auer, Ray Agnew and Mark Smith return, and also in the secondary where DB's Chris Johnson and Michael Brooks are also back for another campaign. Redshirt sophomore Bryan Carter should be an able replacement for Cofer in the PK department, but the punting and long-snapping chores will be up for grabs.

On the defensive line, Agnew is among the most aggressive performers. As a freshman, he became a starter in the team's sixth game of the season and performed so impressively that he was voted ACC Rookie of the Year by the media. Agnew made six tackles, had two quarterback hurries and recovered two fumbles in his initial outing as State upset North Carolina, 35-34, to end the seven-year control of the series by the Tar Heels.

His style of play was not lost on Sheridan. "Ray had an outstanding year, especially for a freshman just out of high school," Sheridan said. "He will continue to improve as he matures. I believe he can become one of the better defensive linemen to ever play at State. He certainly has that potential."

Virginia

If you take a look at the University of Virginia's preseason football prospectus, you'll notice that right next to the team's 1986 record, the school's athletic department proudly announces



Virginia DE Sean Scott

that Virginia "won the College Football Association's Academic Achievement Award for the second consecutive year."

That fact is very impressive. However, the Cavaliers' 3-8 record is not.

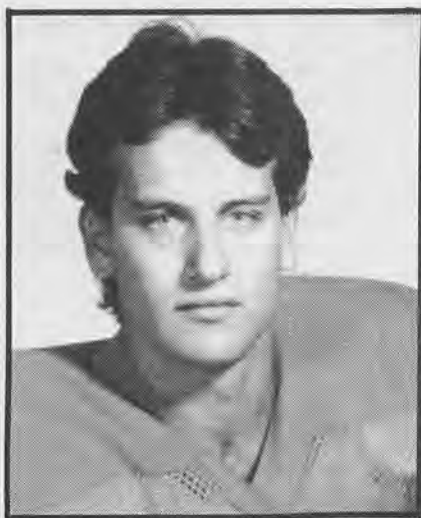
If Virginia is to improve in 1987, coach George Welsh will be counting on experience gained by several of the team's young players.

Seven starters return on offense and the Cavaliers have their top three rushers and top two receivers coming back.

In the backfield, sophomore Durwin Greggs (404 yards, two TD's) junior Chris Warren (380 yards, one TD) and redshirt junior Kevin Morgan return along with junior Pat Toland and redshirt sophomore Dan Porter. Greggs finished the season as the starter at fullback and carried the ball 70 times for 370 yards in Virginia's last four games. Warren was Virginia's leading punt (136 yards and one TD in 17 returns) and kickoff returner (768 yards in 34 returns) last season and was ranked 21st in the nation among Division I-A players in all-purpose running (average of 131.5 per game).

Redshirt senior Scott Secules started three games at quarterback last season when Don Majkowski was injured. Secules is expected to start this season. He played in nine games in 1986 and completed 75-of-146 passes (51.4 percent) for 956 yards and four touchdowns with seven interceptions. Secules also rushed for 56 yards and one touchdown in '86 and was named the Cavaliers' most improved player. Redshirt freshman Shawn Moore will be Virginia's backup.

Starters Keith Mattioli and John Ford return at wide receiver. Mattioli is a fifth-year player who lettered for the first time last season when he caught 44 passes for 717 yards and three touchdowns, and was named Virginia's outstanding offensive player. His 44 receptions were more than any Virginia players since Tom Fadden



Virginia QB Scott Secules

caught 48 passes in 1975 and his 717 yards in receptions is the third-best total in the school's history.

Ford caught 32 passes for 555 yards and five touchdowns last fall after missing the entire 1985 season with a knee injury.

Offensive line returns

Virginia has four starters returning along the offensive line. Redshirt sophomore Tim Morris is back after starting every game at center last season and three players who saw extensive playing at guard are back.

Sophomore Roy Brown, named Virginia's outstanding interior lineman last season, started the first seven games at guard before moving to defense and where he started the last four games at defensive tackle. He has returned to offense and joins returning starter John Fetsko at guard. Senior Mike Fetsko and sophomore Tim O'Connor, who lettered at nose guard last season, are expected to compete for playing time at guard.

Fifth-year senior Chris Minear, who started four games at tackle and six games at guard last season, will compete for a starting position at tackle with redshirt freshmen Don Collins, Rip Leonard and Ken Plumb.

Junior Joel Dempsey returns to a starting position at tight end. Dempsey caught 14 passes for 161 yards last season and also handled the Cavaliers' punting chores. He averaged 38 yards on 60 punts.

Good news, bad news

The good news for Virginia is that nine young defensive players return from last year's starting unit. The bad news is that that group allowed an average of 28.6 points and 415.8 yards per game last season.

Heading the list of returning starters is senior DE Sean Scott. Scott, a three-year starter, led the Cavaliers in

tackles last season (88 total, 40 unassisted), recovered three fumbles and forced three more. He also had seven tackles for losses and was named Virginia's outstanding defensive player.

Sophomore Ray Savage is also at defensive end after earning a starting position at linebacker as a freshman last fall. He was fourth on the team in tackles with 73, 40 of which were unassisted, and recovered two fumbles. Juniors Preston Hicks and Craig Thornbury should also see playing time at end.

The LB corps is headed by juniors Jeff Lageman and David Griggs and sophomore Phil Thomas. Lageman (37 tackles, one fumble recovery and one interception) started Virginia's first five games last season before breaking a leg during a practice session, while Griggs was a starter at defensive end (61 tackles, 24 unassisted, team-leading three sacks). Thomas worked his way into a starting position at linebacker last season and finished second on the team in tackles with 73, 40 unassisted. Sophomore Jim Sanford (29 tackles) and junior Delano Tyler (23 tackles) provide additional depth.

Along the defensive line Judd Rupp, Craig Murden and Ron Carey can all play either nose guard or tackle. Rupp finished last season as the starter at nose guard, Murden is a returning letterman and Carey saw action in two games early last season before suffering a season-ending knee injury.

Senior Mark Inderlied is expected to take over the place-kicking responsibilities with the departure of Jeff Gaffney.

Maryland

To say last year's Maryland football team was a disappointment is a bit of an understatement. Despite having a team that had All-Conference performers on the defensive line, linebacker and in the defensive backfield, the Terrapins could manage only a .500 season at 5-5-1.

And, of course, there was the incident involving coach Bobby Ross that ultimately cost him his job. After an excruciating 32-30 loss to North Carolina, Ross went sprinting after the officials to criticize their performance.

At another school, this kind of display might have resulted in a fine and/or a suspension but, because of Maryland's image problems resulting from the death of Len Bias, school officials were forced to seek Ross' resignation. As a result, longtime assistant Joe Krivak is now the head man.

Krivak, who has been an assistant coach for 18 years, is getting his first shot as a head coach. His trademark has been his association with a high-powered passing game. During the last five years, he has helped develop QB's Boomer Esiason, Stan Gelbaugh, Frank Reich and current signal-caller Dan Henning.



Maryland coach Joe Krivak hopes to turn Terripin's fortunes around

During the last five years, Maryland has averaged 33 points a game and has scored 171 more points than any other ACC team in the same time period.

"That's the way I intend to keep things," said Krivak. "I like the wide-open offensive game and we're going to continue to have an exciting offense. We intend to utilize everyone in the game and force the opponents to cover the entire field."

The Terrapins return 16 from the first two offensive units and 14 from the first two defensive units along with both kickers from the 1986 team. Included among the 43 lettermen on the team are 14 who have earned three letters each.

TE Ferrell Edmunds and LB Kevin Walker are a pair of All-America candidates. OL Bill Hughes and Dave Amend, PK Dan Plocki and WR's James Milling and Aziz Abdur-Ra'ooof are also high on the list for all-star honors.

Plocki, in two years as the placekicker, has hit on 49-of-49 extra points and 22-of-27 field goal attempts.

Three All-Conference selections are gone from the defensive unit in DL Bruce Mesner, LB Chuck Faucette and

DB Keeta Covington.

While the 1986 season was the ultimate disappointment for the Terps, the team's recent history has been nothing but outstanding. Last year was the first time since 1971 that Maryland had lost three league games or finished below third in the ACC. It was also the first time since 1982 that the Terps lost one league game.

With six ACC championships and four second-place finishes over the last 13 years, Maryland has always been the one team that all ACC competitors tried to shoot down. Now, for the first time in a long time, Maryland will be the challenger, trying to bring down the likes of North Carolina, Clemson and North Carolina State.

Georgia Tech

If Bobby Ross' performance at Maryland earned him the boot, it was enough to get him an invitation at Georgia Tech. The new head coach of the Rambling Wreck had already accepted a position as an assistant coach with the Buffalo Bills when Tech came a-calling, and Ross didn't hesitate.

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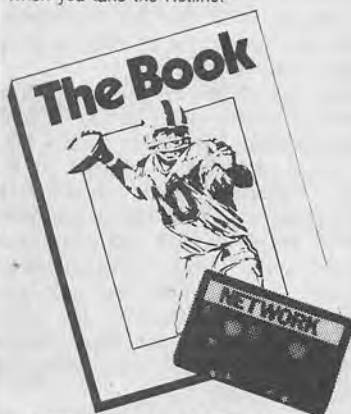
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Ross sees potential in a team that finished 5-5-1 last season. But, to reach that potential, Battlin' Bobby plans to unsheath his iron fist.

"The first thing we want to do is establish an attitude of discipline, an attitude of doing things the right way," said Ross. "We want to develop an attitude of effort, one of preciseness and attention to detail."

"Second, we want to develop a base of conditioning that is going to carry right over into the fall. Third, we want to develop some competitiveness between positions and, at the same time, arrive at a depth chart of getting people into the right positions where they fit the offensive and defensive schemes we're running. And we can't waste any time doing that since the second, third and fourth games of the season are against the front-running teams in the ACC."

Ross will have 48 returning lettermen, including 16 starters, from last year's Tech squad that came within seven points of an 8-3 mark.

Georgia Tech will likely have a much different look from last year's team because Ross has said that "every position is open and nobody has any guarantees."

He also talked about changing the philosophy of the offense. "Offensively, we're hoping to throw the football more," said Ross. "Defensively, from the naked eye, you won't be able to see the difference."

At quarterback, Ross will be able to choose from seniors Rick Strom, Darrell Gast and junior Todd Rampley. Strom started 10 games a year ago and completed 52 percent of his passes for 1,011 yards last year. He ended the year on a good note when he completed 15-of-26 passes for 233 yards and one touchdown.

Ross will have strength at tailback and fullback. TB Jerry Mays, a junior, is one of the top broken-field runners in the conference. Mays led Tech in rushing with 842 yards, seven TD's and a sparkling 5.7 yards per carry. Senior FB Malcolm King has run for more than 1,000 yards in his career. King averaged 5.0 per carry last year and also caught 11 passes.

The Rambling Wreck will have a lot of strength at tight end in 1987. Senior Robert Massey caught only nine passes, but averaged more than 17.5 yards per catch. He is a devastating blocker. Massey is backed up by Chris Caudle and junior Alonzo Watson.

On the defensive front, DT's Sean Smith and Willie Burks are a pair of explosive sophomores who saw action as starters last year. Smith had five quarterback sacks and Burks had eight.

FS Riccardo Ingram was All-Conference choice last fall and is the best athlete on the squad and a legitimate All-America candidate. Ingram led the team in tackles with 91 and finished second in the nation in punt returns with a 14.6 average. The

defensive backfield will receive a boost from the return of CB Sammy Lilly, who missed all of 1986 with a severe hamstring injury.

Duke

Offensive-minded Steve Spurrier will have 17 starters returning to a team that is quietly attempting to become competitive.

"With the talent we have here right now, we can be very competitive this season. We've got good players, good facilities, good coaches and a good schedule, so anything less than a winning season will not be acceptable. But we also have a lot of work to do if we really want to get there."

Brave talk from a first-year coach. Especially when the team's all-time leading tackler, LB Mike Junkin, has been lost to graduation.

The defensive line should be anchored by a pair of rising prospects in junior Brian Bernard and sophomore Marc Crayton, with All-Conference candidate Dave Demore and part-time 1986 starter Jeff Patten at the ends. Demore was one of the Blue Devils' big-play defenders last year, averaging nine tackles a game.

The LB corps remains solid despite the loss of Junkin. Senior Andy Andreasik, a starter the past two years, and classmate Jim Godfrey, a 1986 starter, are the key figures along with junior George Edwards, who saw extensive playing time last year.

The secondary is intact from last season. That crew is led by academic All-America Mike Diminick at free safety, Dewayne Terry and Fonda Williams at the corners and Bob Calamari at rover.

The Blue Devils finished fourth in the conference in defense last season and, with 10 starters returning, there appears to be no reason why Duke can't improve that standing. However, the league is very competitive.

Offensively, the Blue Devils should have a wide-open, anything goes kind of attack. Senior Steve Slayden returns at quarterback. He's now the No. 3 passer in school history and has thrown for more than 5,000 yards and 28 touchdowns in his career.

Slayden's top targets are All-America candidate Doug Green at wide receiver and Jason Cooper at tight end. Green has ranked second in the ACC in receiving the last two years and had 46 receptions for 608 yards the last two years.

On the offensive line, OG Steve Ryan and OT's Chris Port and Ted McNairy return to the starting lineup. Ryan is one of the strongest players on the team and a fine pass blocker.

The running game will most likely be team's weakest points. The Blue Devils must replace TB Julius Grantham and FB Tracy Smith. Stanley Monk, Wayne Charles, Roger Boone and Eric Sanders are the leading contenders.



Georgia Tech coach Bobby Ross

As one would expect, Spurrier intends to concentrate mainly on his team's passing game. "The things we have to concentrate on offensively are pass blocking by the linemen, good pass patterns by the receivers and good decisions by the quarterbacks," Spurrier said. "With our offense, the quarterback must make good decisions."

And if Slayden can make those positive decisions, the ACC may have one more contender.

Wake Forest

The Demon Deacons have been consistent over the years in the ACC. Not only have they been in the bottom third of the conference in the basketball standings, they've matched that mark with their football efforts.

Last year, Wake Forest approached the .500 mark with a 5-6 record, but their conference record was only 2-5. For that reason, Bill Dooley was hired as head coach.

Dooley came to the school in January and is very familiar with ACC football. He is often credited with bringing big-time football back to the league when he became head coach at North Carolina in 1967. He led the Tar Heels to the top of the ACC during his 11-year stay, then performed that same winning transformation as head coach and athletic director at Virginia Tech the past nine years.

At Tech, Dooley led the Hokies to seven-straight winning seasons from 1980 until this past fall.

The Demons do have some hope of improving. Thirty lettermen return from last year's team, including 13 from an offensive unit that set a school record for point production, averaging 29.5 points per game. The backfield trio of QB Mike Elkins, Darryl McGill and Chip Rives are key members of the unit.

Elkins threw for 2,541 yards last fall, completing 205-of-380 passes for 17 touchdowns. Six times he totaled at least 250 yards in the air in one game, including a dazzling 429-yard performance against North Carolina State. Elkins led the ACC in total offense in 1986.

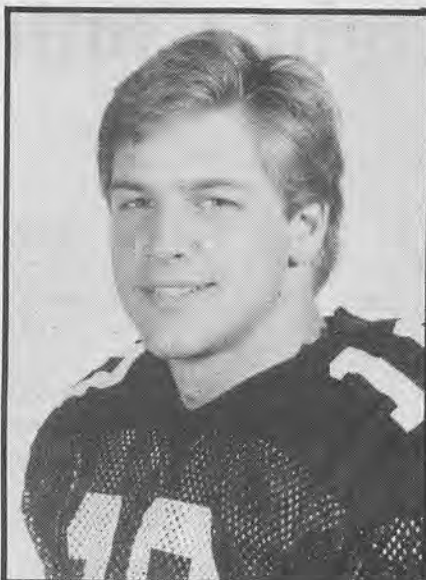
The duo of McGill and Rives combined for more than 1,500 yards and 19 TD's on the ground and should adapt to Dooley's I-formation attack. McGill (859) was third in the ACC in rushing last year, while Rives (679) was fifth. The offensive line that paved the way for the runners last years must be rebuilt. Four starters, including All-American OG Paul Kiser, are gone. The lone returning starter is Paul Mann.

The top returning receiver is the very gifted Greg Scales, the team's second-leading pass-catcher last year with 34 receptions and six touchdowns. Scales is capable of playing wide receiver or tight end.

On the defensive front, Wake has six returning starters.

One of the leaders will be Jimmie Simmons, a three-year letterman who was third on the team in tackles last year with 112 total stops.

The defensive secondary should be a strong point with three starters and four key reserves returning. FS Ernie Purnsley was second on the team in tackles with 154 and is one of the team's hardest hitters.



Wake Forest QB Mike Elkins

CB A. J. Greene, a starter since the second game of his career, made game-saving interceptions against Maryland and Georgia Tech last season. SS Joe Walker has been a starter for nearly two seasons.

The defensive line lost some key performers to graduation, but DE's Mike Hooten and Kelly Vaughn should be productive after one year in the starting lineup. Both were raw last season, but a full year of experience

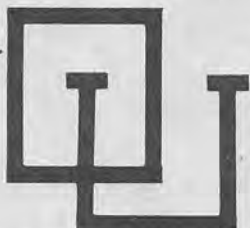
has to help them.

Wake's two kicking specialists, PK Wilson Hoyle and P Martin Bailey are also back. Hoyle set a school record for points in one season by a kicker with 59 last year. Bailey was somewhat inconsistent in his second season as a starter. He will battle Dale Backus for that job.

Feist's Factors

- The underdog is 12-2 in the Clemson-Georgia rivalry.
- North Carolina is just 3-10 ATS vs. Maryland since 1973.
- The underdog is 10-1 in the North Carolina State-Virginia rivalry in the last 11 matchups.
- The visitor is 8-2 ATS in the Maryland-West Virginia series.
- Virginia is just 2-10 ATS vs. Clemson the last 12 outings.
- Georgia Tech is 3-10 ATS vs. Duke the last 13 meetings.
- Duke is 2-12 ATS vs. Clemson the last 14 seasons.
- The visitor is 10-4 ATS in the Wake Forest-Duke rivalry.

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Big Eight Conference

Predicted Finish

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Oklahoma | 5. Missouri |
| 2. Nebraska | 6. Iowa State |
| 3. Colorado | 7. Kansas State |
| 4. Oklahoma St. | 8. Kansas |

1986 Records

	Conf.	Overall
Oklahoma	7-0-0	11-1-0
Colorado	6-1-0	6-6-0
Nebraska	5-2-0	10-2-0
Oklahoma State	4-3-0	6-5-0
Iowa State	3-4-0	6-5-0
Missouri	2-5-0	3-8-0
Kansas State	1-6-0	3-8-0
Kansas	0-7-0	3-8-0

Oklahoma

Just an average year for Oklahoma in 1986. All the Sooners did was win the Big Eight championship for the umpteenth season, roll over such teams as Texas, UCLA and Arkansas, and dominate just about every opponent they faced.

The only exception was Miami, which beat the Sooners for the second consecutive season and kept them from winning a second consecutive national championship. But, even though they lost their grip on that elusive title, the Sooners finished as the No. 3 team in the nation.

Most coaches would be delirious after such a finish, but Barry Switzer was not. The loss to Miami gnawed at him, and he yearns to bring home another national crown in 1987. Don't bet against him.

Even though Brian "The Boz" Bosworth will no longer wear Sooner red, don't think for a moment that the Oklahoma defense will start to soften up. The key player in this year's version of the wild bunch is LB Dante Jones. He is aggressive, intelligent and opportunistic.

Jones was named the most valuable lineman in Oklahoma's 42-8 rout of Arkansas in the 1987 Orange Bowl. He virtually wrecked everything that Arkansas attempted on offense as he registered nine unassisted tackles, an interception and broke up one pass play. Jones completed the 1986 season with 59 tackles and tied for the team lead in interceptions with three.

Jones has been overshadowed throughout his college career by Bosworth, but Oklahoma coaches believe he will be able to step in and not miss a beat. According to defensive coordinator Gary Gibbs, Jones is talented enough to start "for any school in the country and just might end up on several All-America teams."

DB Randy Dixon is another outstanding defensive player. He is prob-



Dante Jones is a tremendous force against the run and the pass

ably the team's most underrated performer in the secondary, except by the coaching staff and those who play against him. Last year, Dixon recorded 49 tackles, including one behind the line of scrimmage for a loss of two yards. He intercepted three passes and broke up six more. Dixon returned punts as well, and was at his best in Oklahoma's victory over Oklahoma State. In that game, he registered seven tackles and an interception. He followed up that game with eight tackles against Nebraska.

DE Darrell Reed is another of Oklahoma's big-play defenders. He was

a unanimous All-Conference selection for the third year in a row, even though a knee injury forced him out of the Oklahoma State game. The injury was not as bad as first feared, however, and he returned to play against Colorado and Nebraska.

When he's healthy, Reed is one of the best in the country. Even though he missed three games, he still finished fourth in total tackles for a down lineman with 37 — of which 20 were unassisted. He also broke up three passes and was credited with five quarterback sacks for losses of 34 yards.

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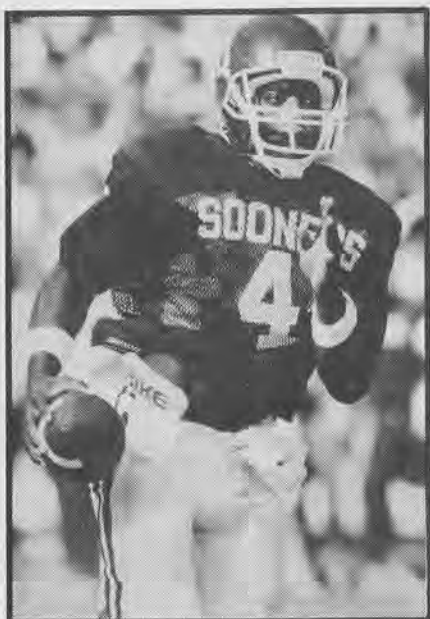
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QB Jamelle Holieway

Reed was at his best in the Orange Bowl when he had five unassisted tackles and one sack for a three yard loss. Even though injured part of last season, Reed has started 30 games in his three years at Oklahoma.

While the defense is the backbone of the Oklahoma juggernaut, the offense grabs the headlines. Any team that scores 38 points against UCLA, 63 against Minnesota, 64 against Kansas, 77 against Missouri and 42 against Arkansas is obviously potent, and the key to that offense, Jamelle Holieway, is back to lead the attack.

Holieway was named Big Eight offensive player of the year. Switzer labeled him as "the best wishbone quarterback I've ever had."

Although he's not very big and he's not the fastest man on the squad, Holieway has been likened to a magician by Switzer for his ability to slither and slide through opposing defenses while breaking tackles time and time again.

Holieway led the team in rushing last season with 811 yards and he hit on 30-of-63 passes for 541 yards and four touchdowns. Holieway also scored eight touchdowns himself. He is a durable performer who has missed only one game in two years because of an injury, even though he takes a tremendous pounding every game.

More than anything else, Holieway always seems to make the right decision at the line of scrimmage when it comes to the option play. More than any other quarterback in college football, Holieway holds on to the ball until the last possible second before pitching out to a back.

While not a traditional passing quarterback, Holieway proved he was quite capable of coming through with the big play when he hit TE Keith Jackson twice in the waning moments of the Nebraska game to produce a come-from-behind victory.

Jackson, too, is a unique offensive force. He was a consensus All-America pick last year and an All-Conference performer for the last two seasons.

"The numbers don't really tell the story with this guy," said Switzer. "There's just something magic about him. When you ask Keith Jackson to do the job, he does it, no matter what the obstacles."

Jackson is a great blocker and receiver with a combination of speed and hands that make him a "home run" threat on every pass play. The fact that he plays for the team that was last in the NCAA in passing offense makes his contribution even more amazing.

Although he caught only 14 passes in 1986, his average per catch (28.8) is a school record for 10 or more receptions in a single season. And, although he's most noted for his receiving and blocking, he added to his reputation with end-around plays that netted an additional 98 yards on only six tries. Jackson is truly the kind of player that can take the worst situation and turn it in to a positive.

Nebraska

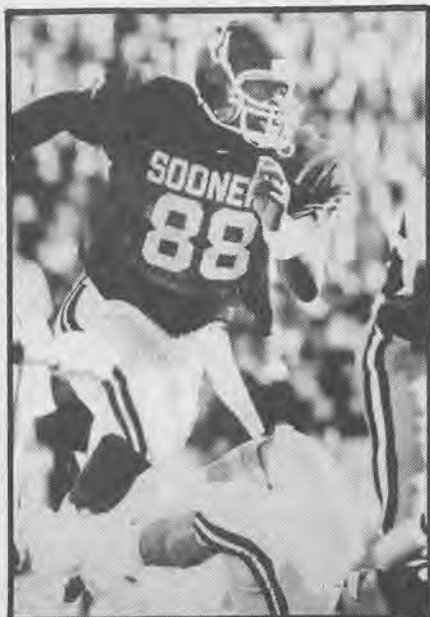
Any time a discussion about the quality of the Nebraska football team starts, just assume that they will be one of the top five in the nation and will win about 10 games. The assumption can also be made that the Cornhuskers will not have enough to beat their arch-rivals from Norman, Oklahoma.

Those assumptions should hold true once again this season. Nebraska is once again a powerful team, but there appears to be a greater gap between the Cornhuskers and the Sooners than there has been at any time in the recent past.

For years, the Cornhuskers have been the team with the big, powerful linemen who could open big holes due in large part to their brute strength. But for the second year in a row, they are actually a physically smaller team than Oklahoma. Last year, the Cornhuskers were a strong enough team to lead the Sooners into the late stages of the fourth quarter. This year, even though the game is once again in Lincoln, don't expect the Cornhuskers to put up that much of a battle.

But there is talent in Nebraska and, even if Oklahoma will be able to dominate them, don't expect too many other teams to do the same.

However, Dr. Tom Osborne will have a much tougher schedule than he is normally asked to face. His team starts the season with what should be an easy game at home against Utah State but, in their next two games, the Cornhuskers have to take on UCLA and Arizona State. The contest with the Sun Devils in Tempe is the kind of tough road game that Nebraska usually avoids.



Oklahoma TE Keith Jackson

The most talented players on the Cornhuskers perform at the skill positions. QB Steve Taylor has the capacity to engineer brilliant drives and make spectacular individual plays that can turn around a game or a season. He has personally dedicated his season toward beating Oklahoma in the season finale, and he believes that he was personally responsible for the loss one year ago.

"I really don't care about anything as much as I do about beating Oklahoma this year," Taylor said. "We've proven we can beat just about anybody else, but we haven't proven we can beat them. That fact really hurts me. Our basketball team has beaten them and our baseball team has beaten them, but the football team has been stopped. We've got to do it this year."

For all of his enthusiasm and spectacular play, Taylor can also be an inconsistent performer. His arm is not always there in clutch situations, and Osborne is looking for some improvement from Taylor this season.

Nebraska will once again run the ball out of the I-formation. They have one of the nation's best backs in Keith "Endzone" Jones, a player who depends on quick cuts and his flat-out speed. When he gets it in gear, he's extremely tough to catch. Just ask Illinois coach Mike White how to stop Jones. His team watched the speedster rip through its secondary all night long during an early-season game in 1986.

Jones will be joined in the backfield by Tyreese Knox, a big back built in the mold of Mike Rozier. Knox is a fine blocker and he loves to slug away at the inside of any defensive set-up. In Osborne's ideal game plan, Knox would soften up opponents with his inside running, and Jones would put them away with his slashing runs to the outside.

WR Von Sheppard had injury problems last year, but was brilliant

in 1985. If he can return to the form he displayed two years ago, the Cornhuskers could have a very dangerous offense. Sheppard is joined by Dana Brinson, who had an excellent game against Oklahoma and is also very fast.

This year's Nebraska team does not have an All-America-type offensive lineman that you might expect. The lone returning starter is RG John McCormack, a short, stocky performer who is not an outstanding athlete.

The defensive line is anchored by DE-OLB Broderick Thompson and DT Neil Smith. Thompson is a big-play performer who is at his best in clutch situations. Smith is the fastest defensive tackle the Cornhuskers have had in quite some time.

In the defensive secondary, Brian Washington will be expected to live up to his potential at strong safety. Nebraska coaches really thought that Washington was going to be a superior talent but, to this point, he has not been very productive.

Colorado

Quick, without looking at last year's conference standings, which team finished second in the Big Eight last season? Everyone who said Nebraska, go to the end of the line. Surprise of surprises, it was Colorado that upset Nebraska and edged out the Cornhuskers for second place.

The 1987 season has the potential to be the best in Boulder since the mid-'70's as head coach Bill McCartney has more overall talent and depth than at any time in his previous five years at the reins of the Buffalo program.

With 44 returning lettermen and over 100 players back from last year's team, Colorado will have a much different game plan than in past seasons. "We have a veteran team, so there will be less experimentation. This year we'll work on developing the offense and getting some depth at key positions."

Included in the group of returnees are 16 starters, eight each on offense and defense, as well as the two top specialists from a year ago, when Colorado came back into prominence. The hot (6-1) finish enabled the Buffs to earn a trip to a bowl game for the second straight year, although Baylor defeated Colorado 21-9 in the Bluebonnet Bowl on New Year's Eve.

Virtually all of the strengths of the past two years will again be present in 1987: a talented defense (11th nationally in 1986) and one of the country's top punting games (second in net punting a year ago after leading the nation in 1985).

The offensive line is the team's biggest question mark. "We need to find our starters on the offensive line and, in general, upgrade our offensive line play," McCartney said. "That, and the TE spot are the positions that are



Colorado QB Mark Hatcher

the most questionable.

"Our biggest area of concern is merging as a strong and consistent offense. We need to further develop our offense, and we can do it through hard work."

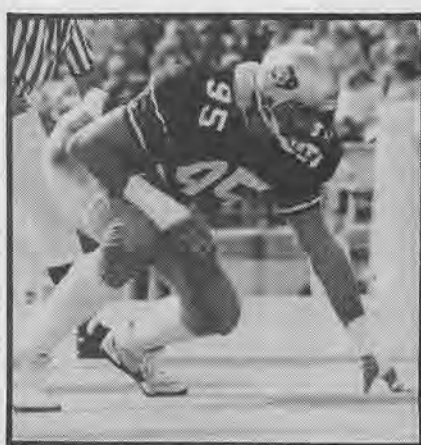
Quarterback is also an open position on Colorado. Both Mark Hatcher and Marc Walters are expected to battle for the starting quarterback role. Last year, Hatcher completed 28-of-66 passes for 493 yards, while Walters connected on 7-of-13 for 167 yards.

Colorado's two leading ground-gainers are back. HB O.C. Oliver and FB Anthony Weatherspoon are again expected to lead the rushing attack. Last year, Oliver gained 668 yards and scored six touchdowns while Weatherspoon gained 581 yards and scored four times.

The linebackers are headed by Don DeLuzio, Tom Reinhardt and Eric McCarty. DeLuzio was credited with 41 unassisted tackles and one interception. Reinhardt made 29 unassisted tackles and five sacks for 34 yards in losses. McCarty had a total of 88 tackles including 46 that were solos. He also recovered one fumble. However, DeLuzio and DT Curt Koch were injured during a preseason automobile accident, and both could miss a significant portion of the season.

Colorado is even stronger in the defensive backfield. They are led by Jim Thorpe Award candidate Mickey Pruitt and he's joined by John Nairn, Rod Rogers and David Tate. Pruitt, a strong safety, finished as the team's second-leading tackler with 106 total stops and two fumble recoveries. Nairn had two interceptions and 50 tackles.

While it's probably too much to expect Colorado to come up with another upset of the Big Two, they should probably improve their record over last year.



Colorado DT Curt Koch

Missouri

Missouri will attempt to make a move into the Big Eight's first division and improve on last year's 3-8 record.

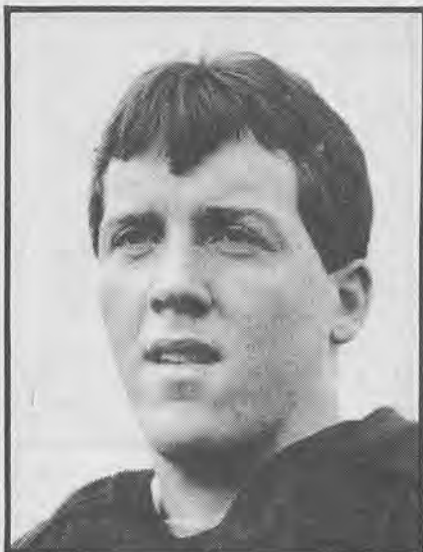
If they do move up, look for big-play threat Ronnie Cameron to have a strong year at quarterback. His ability to go the distance running and passing was a big reason coach Woody Widenhofer decided to use the flexbone offense. Last year, Cameron was injured much of the season and his durability is questionable. Cameron completed 49-of-111 passes for 654 yards and five touchdowns. He also rushed for 365 yards.

With 872 yards, jittery Darrel Wallace led the Big Eight in rushing yards last season, and is just 300 yards away from James Wilder's Missouri career-rushing record. But he's the only running back returning for the Tigers. Heralded freshman Tony Van Zant entered school in January, but was restricted to non-contact work in the spring while rehabilitating the knee he injured in an all-star game last summer. If Van Zant can display the form that made him one of the most heralded recruits in the nation two years ago, Missouri's running game may be one of the most productive in the conference.

The Tigers will have to rebuild their offensive line now that All-America John Clay, Phil Pettey, Ted Romney and Dal Lockwood have graduated. Even without those standouts, Missouri has a few good ones in Jeff Rigan, Michael Scott and Chris Lowe.

On defense, Missouri's strength is its secondary. Sophomore Adrian Jones was the Big Eight's Newcomer of the Year at his left corner position last year, and secondary coach Bill McConnell thinks the other corner, Pat Ray, may be even better in man-to-man coverage. Senior SS Erik McMillan has been one of the Big Eight's best throughout his career, and is in range of the Missouri career-tackling record.

The Tigers' kicking game is very strong. With his first field goal of 1987, Tom Whelihan will become the

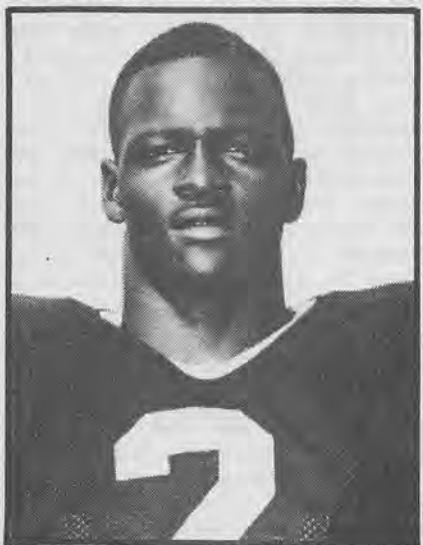


Missouri PK Tom Whellhan

most prolific field-goal kicker in Missouri history. An honorable mention All-America pick last year, the barefooted booter kicked a Big Eight-record 62-yarder against Colorado last fall and has led the Tigers in scoring each of the last two seasons. He's also a punting threat. He dropped 16 kicks inside the 20 and averaged 41.5 yards on 75 kicks.

Oklahoma State

While Oklahoma State is not in the class of the two best teams in the Big



Missouri WR Adrian Jones

Eight, the Cowboys should be able to match up with the other schools in the conference because of fine offensive talent.

Oklahoma State head coach Pat Jones has one of the top running backs in the conference in TB Thurman Thomas. Thomas has the speed to go to the outside and the moves to shake away from defenders. Last year, he was very productive against teams in the bottom half of the conference but, against intrastate rival Okla-

homa, Thomas didn't have enough help to break loose for long, productive runs.

WR Hartley Bank is another producer for the Cowboys. He has has boarding-house reach and has the ability to catch passes on key third-down plays, but is not a great speedster.

Defensively, the Cowboys are led by DL Rickey Shaw. Shaw has the speed and the instinct to break up big offensive plays, and is also one of the emotional leaders of the team. Once he gets off to a good start, he generally has the ability to raise the level of play of his teammates. Conversely, if he gets off to a poor start, the Cowboys tend to be leaderless and ineffective. But that does not usually happen.

Jones does not have a difficult schedule. If the Cowboys get off to a good start, then they will have a chance to be undefeated when they enter league competition. They open up with Tulsa, Houston, Wyoming and Southwest Louisiana.

Iowa State

The Cyclones returned to respectability last year when they finished over .500 with a 6-5 record. The winning season marked the first time since 1980 that Iowa State has broken that barrier.

Iowa State returns five starters on offense and four on defense. One area where they don't have a returning veteran is at quarterback where Derek DeGennaro and Brett Sadek are expected to share starting duties. Sadek backed up starter Alex Espinoza last season, and threw for 179 yards and three touchdowns. Sadek was formerly with Minnesota before transferring to Ames.

At running back, FB Joe Henderson returns as a starter, while last year's starting tailback, Andrew Jackson has completed his eligibility. Henderson rushed for 472 yards and also caught 18 passes for 175 yards and three scores. TB Curtis Warren was Iowa State's third-leading rusher last year.

On the offensive line, OT Keith Sims is the lone returning starter. Sims is a 6-3, 309-pound junior who earned a starting spot halfway through his freshman season.

WR's Dennis Ross and Tom Schulting both drew starting duty last season and have big-play capability. Ross was Iowa State's second-leading receiver with 23 receptions for 312 yards, while Schulting caught 16 passes for 234 yards and two touchdowns.

Defensively, LB Chris Moore should challenge for All-Conference and national honors. Moore led all the Big Eight defenders last season with 145 tackles, including a 27-tackle performance against Oklahoma. LB Anthony Hoskins played in all 11 games last year and was a part-time starter. They should be the heart of the defense.

DE's Scott Benson and Robert

Dabney provide strength on the defensive line. Both were starters last year. Dabney led all defensive ends with 59 tackles, while Benson had 38.

The defensive backfield is in very tough shape. Iowa State lost nearly everyone in the final 1986 two-deep. If head coach Jim Walden can get any production from the defensive backfield, the Cyclones could have a respectable season.

Kansas State

Put yourself in the shoes of K-State head coach Stan Parrish. You're going into your second year as the head man of a major college program. Your starting quarterback from 1986 is returning. Five other starters on offense are returning as are five on defense.



Iowa St. OL Keith Sims

You might say to yourself that things are looking up and the program is turning around. And then you wake up.

That's when the hard times begin for Parrish. The Wildcats have a losing record against every member of the Big Eight conference. In fact, they have their best conference record against Iowa State, whom they've managed to beat only 24 times in 70 tries. The only team they face this season that they don't have a losing record against is Austin Peay, and that's only because they've never played the Governors before.

So, while Parrish puts on an optimistic face, it is difficult, if not impossible to believe that 1987 won't be another sad year around Manhattan.

That doesn't mean there aren't at least a few productive players. TB Tony Jordan is probably the best player on the squad. Last year, he gained 738 yards on the ground, the fourth-best single-season record in the school's history. FB Ray Wilson provides complementary blocking, but is not a big threat when he carries the



Kansas LB Rick Bredeson on the prowl

ball.

Tim Hanson, who started one game last season at quarterback, hopes to start every game this time around. He will be challenged by junior-college transfer Gary Swim, who passed for over 1,600 yards and 11 touchdowns in eight games last season.

On the offensive line, starters Matt Garver and Rob Goode return at left guard and center, respectively. WR Dan Hughes caught 28 passes last season and expects to improve on that total.

Defensively, the Wildcats are led by DB Erick Harper and OLB Grady Newton. Harper is only a sophomore, but is a hard hitter and should provide leadership. Newton played on the inside last season, and should be able to take advantage of his athletic talent

and quickness by moving to the outside.

Kansas

If Dorothy could see the condition of her home state's two football teams, she never would have clicked her heels three times. The Kansas Jayhawks are so bad that they managed to lose to Kansas State by more than two touchdowns last year. Second-year head coach Bob Valesente returns seven starters on offense and eight on defense. That may not be much of a blessing. They may be back, but they're not that good.

Improvement is the only goal that Valesente has set for his team. "We've got to get better in all phases of the game," said Valesente. "No other

football team has a greater challenge in front of it than we do. We want to restore confidence in our players. They do have a chance to be successful and our people must know that.

"We want to emphasize a pro-style attack, with the I-formation as our basic set," Valesente continued. "Although we ran out of the one-back set last year, we occasionally ran out of the I so the implementation will not be that difficult."

The No. 1 question surrounding the Jayhawk offense concerns the quarterback position. Senior Mike Orth appears to be the top man for the job. Last year he connected on 144-of-290 passes for 1,548 yards and seven touchdowns. He will be challenged by sophomore Kelly Donohoe who started the last three games of the season and has a chance to start this year.

Kansas' top receiver will be Willie Vaughn. Last year he caught 41 for 341 yards and two touchdowns.

On defense, Valesente needs major improvement. Last year's team yielded an average of 397 yards per outing.

The best returning defensive lineman is Scott Carlson. He started 11 games, was second on the team in sacks and second among interior linemen on total tackles.

LB Rick Bredeson is probably the team's defensive leader. He registered 106 tackles and two interception. Bredeson is an emotional player who can make the big play.

Two of the four starters return to the secondary. CB's Milt Garner and Mike Fisher have shown some talent, but must improve dramatically if Kansas is to become more consistent. ■

Feist's Factors

■Oklahoma is 11-3 ATS vs. rival Nebraska the past 14 seasons.

■The Sooners are only 5-9 ATS and Texas in their annual shootout.

■The Huskers are 13-5 as an away favorite of less than 10 since 1973.

■Nebraska is 10-4 ATS and Big Ten competition the last 14 years.

■Colorado is just 1-6 ATS vs. Kansas State on the road in their last six meetings.

■Oklahoma State is 11-3 ATS vs. Kansas since 1973.

■Missouri is just 3-11 ATS in home opens the last 14 seasons.

■The home team is 11-2 ATS in the Missouri-Oklahoma series.

■Iowa State is 4-17 ATS vs. Nebraska and Oklahoma since 1973.

■Kansas State is 0-5-1 ATS vs. Nebraska in Lincoln.

■The Wildcats are 3-1 as a road underdog vs. Oklahoma since 1973.

■Kansas is only 1-9 ATS vs. Nebraska since 1973.

Big Ten Conference

Predicted Finish

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Ohio State | 6. Indiana |
| 2. Michigan | 7. Wisconsin |
| 3. Iowa | 8. Northwestern |
| 4. Minnesota | 9. Illinois |
| 5. Michigan St. | 10. Purdue |

1986 Records

	Conf.	Overall
Michigan	7-1-0	11-2-0
Ohio State	7-1-0	10-3-0
Iowa	5-3-0	9-3-0
Minnesota	5-3-0	6-6-0
Michigan State	4-4-0	6-5-0
Indiana	3-5-0	6-6-0
Illinois	3-5-0	4-7-0
Northwestern	2-6-0	4-7-0
Purdue	2-6-0	3-8-0
Wisconsin	2-6-0	3-9-0

Ohio State

Coach Earle Bruce has to say good-bye to Jim Karsatos, but that doesn't mean the Buckeyes' quarterbacking is going to drop off a great deal. Tom Tupa, who has served an apprenticeship to Karsatos and as the team's punter, appears ready to make an impact. While not seeing much action during the 1986 season, he did fill in on occasion and saw some quality playing time against Texas A&M in the 28-12 Cotton Bowl victory.

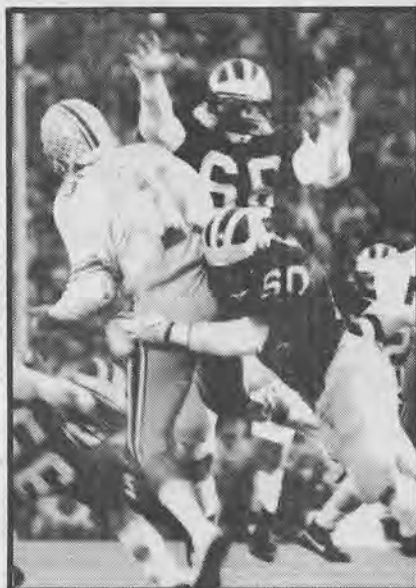
Tupa will have one the nation's great receivers to throw to in Cris Carter. Carter has great hands, superior moves and jumping ability and adequate speed. He is also fearless when going through the middle and the kind of player that any coach would want to build his team around. However, Carter's name has surfaced in an investigation of player relationships with agents and, if he has accepted any kind of payment or even signed his name to a "futures" contract, his eligibility could be threatened.

But, if Carter is cleared, Bruce's main offensive worry will be his offensive line. Last year's 10-3 team, which left Ohio State as Big 10 co-champion, will be without C Bob Maggs, OT Larry Kotterman and TE Ed Taggart.

Maggs and Taggart completed their eligibility, while Kotterman, a 6-7, 284-pound junior, was lost to a severe knee injury last season that was aggravated in a fall this winter. Prospects are doubtful that he will be able to resume his career.

"We're still awfully thin on the offensive line," said Bruce, beginning his ninth year as head coach of the Buckeyes. "We've got to get healthy and we've got to get practice time for our young people."

Jeff Uhlenhake, a starter at left guard last year, has been moved to center to replace Maggs. Alex Higdon, who was recruited as a tight end but played most of last year on defense, is



The BIG game in the Big Ten

back at tight end and is currently on the first unit.

Jeff Davidson, a 6-6, 275-pound freshman, is the front-runner for the OLG spot.

One of Ohio State's big advantages this season is that its two best defensive players are returning. With Chris Spielman and Eric Kumerow holding down two of the linebacker spots, the Buckeyes have two of the best at that position in the country, let alone the Big Ten. And as good as Spielman and Kumerow are, they display the kind of hungry attitude that most coaches can only dream about.

Spielman is the defense's spiritual leader. He plays with the intensity of a coal-miner on pay day and is always whipping up his defensive mates to join him in the frenzy. Spielman is a great student of the game and always seems to be in the right place at the right time. Take a look at last year's Cotton Bowl. In the beginning of the third quarter when Texas A & M was trying to reassert itself to get back

into the game, it was Spielman who swooped in and picked off Kevin Murray and put the game safely in the corner for Ohio State. While not blessed with outstanding speed, Spielman is always in the right place at the right time.

Kumerow gets the job done with his physical and athletic ability. In the words of most scouts, Kumerow is a monster. At 6-6, and 260, he is bigger than many defensive linemen. He has the athletic talent to play anywhere on the field, and he is a tremendous hitter. Kumerow's game is intimidation. Once a ball carrier or receiver comes to his side of the field, they are going to get hit and hit hard. So much so, that the players often avoid moving into his territory. In the words of Joe Garagiola, when Kumerow hits them, they stay hit.

With the graduation of DB Sonny Gordon, the Buckeyes don't appear to have a superstar in the secondary. But they have tremendous depth and are once again loaded in that area.

And now, a word about Bruce. He's definitely not a favorite among fans, sportswriters or even pro scouts. He's got no personality and can be mean and surly to outsiders. But, to his players, he is extremely important and they believe in him. He has put winning numbers on the board every season, and he seems to know what it takes to bring his players around for key late-season games. And, if you wanted to know any more about Bruce, just look at his record in bowl games compared to other Big Ten coaches. He manages to win those games. The other coaches in the conference manage to come up with excuses and explanations.

Michigan

With the Big Ten, it's pretty easy to assume that you can start with Michigan or Ohio State (no offense intended to Iowa fans), and this year

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is no different. Michigan again appears to be loaded, even though top-level players like Jim Harbaugh, Gerald White, Bob Perryman and Garland Rivers have graduated.

Lets take a further look at the Maize and Blue.

Last year's 11-2 Rose Bowl squad will return a total of 14 starters, seven on each side of the ball. Besides Harbaugh, White and Perryman, other key offensive players that have left include FB's Gerald White and Bob Perryman, OG Mark Hammerstein and WR Paul Jokisch. But TB Jamie Morris returns, and he appears poised to have a big year.

Questions at QB

Quarterback is the position that will get a lot of attention from Wolverine coaches. Senior Chris Zurbrugg appears to have the inside track for the starting spot by virtue of his role as Harbaugh's backup. He completed only 2-of-7 passes in the Wolverines blow-out victory over Illinois last year, and that was his entire production for the season.

Juniors Michael Taylor and Demetrius Brown will battle Zurbrugg for the top spot.

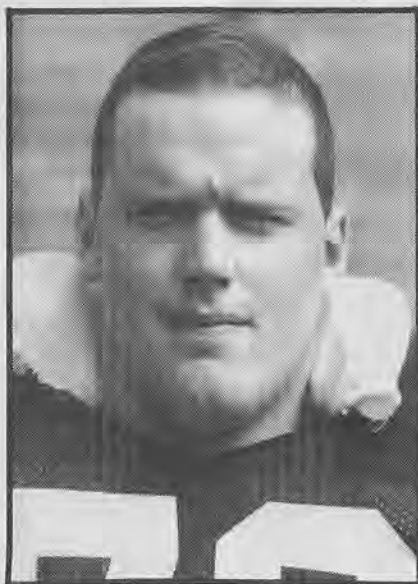
In the backfield, Morris will be looking to become the first running back in the school's history to record three 1,000-yard rushing seasons. He has led the Wolverines in rushing the past three years and also plays a key role in Michigan's passing game as he stands sixth on the all-time reception list. Morris is backed up by Ernie Holloway and highly-touted sophomores Tony Boles and Allen Jefferson.

Leroy Hoard and Jarrod Bunch will challenge Phil Webb to replace White and Perryman in the fullback slot. All three are big, powerful blockers who have yet to prove they can gain the tough yards inside.

Coach Bo Schembechler will have plenty of talent in his receiving corps. Gone are the days when Michigan's offense only threw the football in times of desperation. This group puts it up early, and often. John Kolesar returns after missing much of last season with a broken collarbone. In two seasons, he has caught a total of 27 passes for 738 yards, a remarkable 27.8 yards per catch. Another starter, Greg McMurtry returns after making 22 catches with an average of 23.1 yards as a freshman last season.

TE Jeff Brown caught 18 passes for 215 yards last season. He returns to the starting lineup, as does backup Derrick Walker, who saw action in every game last season.

But the real strength of this offense will be in the pits. Mark Hammerstein was the only starter lost to graduation. Returning for a fifth year is All-Conference OT John Elliott (6-7, 306). The big guy is a probable All-American candidate and a possible Outland Trophy winner. Other returning line-



OT John Elliott

men include OT Mike Husar, OG Michael Dames and C John Vitale.

Husar started all but three games that he missed because of a knee injury, while Dames and Vitale were in there every Saturday. Dames is extremely quick and will most likely fill Michigan's "quick" guard position. Dave Chester will most likely fill the other OG slot. He is big and powerful (6-2, 255), but his quickness is not at a level with that of Dames.

Experience on DL

Michigan's strong point on defense appears to be its defensive line. DT Mark Messner and MG Billy Harris are that group's leaders. Both have started every game for the past two seasons. Joining them on the front line are Dave Folkertsma, John Herrman and Brian Reid.

LB Andree McIntyre, who collected 91 tackles last season, will return to a starting inside linebacker position. He will most likely be joined by J.J. Grant who played in every game last season.

Leading the outside linebackers are seniors John Willingham, Carlitos Bostic and Steve Thibert. Willingham has started 12 straight games and finished second on the team in sacks with four. Bostic had won a starting job last year, but went down with a knee injury in the second game.

In the defensive backfield, the Wolverines lost three starters, but return seven lettermen. The SS position should feature fifth-year man Doug Mallory. Erik Campbell, who started 11 games at the CB position, will most likely switch to free safety this season. Allen Bishop, David Key and David Arnold lead the competition for starting corner positions.

Mike Gillette, the Wolverines' third-leading kicker in history, returns after making 11-of-16 field goal attempts and 26-of-26 extra points. P Monte

Robbins is coming off an excellent year in which he averaged 43.6 yards per punt.

While this Michigan team may not go into the 1987 season with a seasoned QB, this squad has everything else you would want in a college football team.

Iowa

Once again, Iowa coach Hayden Fry is doing impersonation of the boy that cried wolf. Fry will tell all that have the naivete to listen that his Hawkeyes are too inexperienced and not talented enough to contend for the Big Ten title. Word of advice: Don't believe him. Iowa should be an extremely talented offensive team and won't be that bad defensively.

Fry has lost six defensive starters from last year's 9-3 team but, as usual, Fry has a great deal of incoming talent.

"This is going to be a completely different ball club, just like the one a year ago," said Fry. "We lost some good players, especially on defense. We might just have to outscore people to win the early games."

Despite the personnel losses, the Hawkeyes will likely finish in the Big Ten's top three, as is their habit. Iowa has won at least eight games and played in a post-season bowl game in each of the last six seasons.

Four Hawkeyes on the 1987 roster have won first-team all-Big Ten honors. They are TB Rick Bayless, who rushed for 1,150 yards and was named the team's most valuable player last year, PK Rob Houghtlin, whose last-second field goals decided the final two games of 1986, NG Dave Haight and OL Bob Kratch.

Offensive starters returning from the team that won the Holiday Bowl are Bayless, Kratch, WR's Quinn Early and Jim Mauro, OT Herb Wester, TE Mike Flagg and FB Richard Bass. Starters back on defense are Haight, LB Brad Quast, DE Joe Mott and DB's Keaton Smiley and Kerry Burt.

Dave Croston, a first-team All-American offensive tackle, and Jeff Drost, an All-Big Ten defensive tackle, leave the biggest holes to fill.

Fry says the tight end, running back and fullback positions are the strength of his offense. Flagg, Marv Cook and Craig Clark are the tight ends; Bayless, Kevin Harmon and Kevin Ringer are the running backs; and Bass, David Hudson and Grant Goodman are the fullbacks.

During the spring, 6-8 soph Dan McGwire emerged as the winner over Tom Poholsky and Chuck Hartlieb in the contest for the Iowa QB position.

"McGwire has the strongest arm of any quarterback we've ever had at Iowa," Fry said. "We expect big things from him. But Poholsky and Hartlieb are still very much in the picture. They will also see quite a bit



Rick Bayless rips through Purdue en route to an Iowa win last year

of action."

Aside from quarterback, Iowa is once again loaded with veterans at the skill positions. Bayless and Mauro each caught 30 passes last season and also had five touchdown receptions.

Hudson was Iowa's leading rusher from his FB position until he pulled up lame in the third game and never fully recovered. He has All-America potential, as a seven-yard per carry average would indicate. Harmon started the season as Iowa's top tailback last year, but pulled a hamstring in the opener. By the time he recovered, Bayless was well on his way to a 1,000-yard season.

The middle of the offensive line has all new starters. OLG Greg Divis has virtually no experience. ORG Dave Alexander and C Bill Anderson are lettermen. Their backups have limited playing time, making this an area of concern to Fry. Kratch, a solid candidate for All-America honors, and Webster give strength to the tackle positions.

Iowa led the Big Ten in total defense four of the last five years, but defensive coordinator Bill Brashier and his staff have a major challenge to live up to that high standard. Burt, a very good strong safety, has a bad back and his status is uncertain. That leaves three newcomers in the secondary — Tork Hook, Anthony Wright and Merton Hanks — to team with Smiley.

The front five has three new starters: OT's Steve Thomas and Joe Schuster and end Mike Burke. All are lettermen. Haight, a noseguard, will aim for higher honors after making All-Big Ten in 1986. The rugged Mott

is back at one end. Experienced players are secure at all backup positions.

A tough schedule begins with Tennessee in the Kickoff Classic, then continues with road games at Arizona and Iowa State before the Hawkeyes play in the familiar confines of Kinnick Stadium. In the Big Ten, Iowa has to play at both Michigan and Ohio State.

It's going to be a real challenge," says Fry. "But we have developed a strong tradition at Iowa, and I will be disappointed if we don't have another strong football team."

Minnesota

A year ago, Minnesota finished regular-season play at 6-5, and 5-3 in the conference, including a huge upset victory over Michigan that knocked the Wolverines from the ranks of the undefeated. The Gophers were rewarded with their second-straight bowl invitation.

But making progress and continuing to show improvement will not be an easy task. Minnesota has lost 19 seniors to graduation and that delegation includes 14 starters, five on offense and nine on defense.

Offensively the front line was hard hit where OT's Jim Hobbins and Norries Wilson as well as C Ray Hitchcock are gone. On defense, the secondary has been depleted following the loss of Duane Dureuille, Matt Martinez and Donovan Small. On top of that, ILB's Bruce Holmes and Don Pollard were among last year's best seniors as were DT's Anthony Burke and Steve Thompson.

As a result Minnesota must rebuild, and that project will center around 41 returning lettermen. In addition, coach John Gutekunst has 12 redshirt freshmen who will be playing this season.

With the Minnesota offense, it's easy to think of the option play and reach the conclusion that the Golden Gophers again will be explosive with QB Rickey Foggie and TB Darrell Thompson.

Both Foggie and Thompson will return, and they are two of the big Ten's most explosive players. But Gutekunst also knows that those two will need a lot of help if Minnesota is to have an exciting offense.

At tight end, Craig Otto returns, and he will be expected to better last year's total of nine catches. On the offensive line, Dan Rechlin and Dan Liimata should win spots as the starting offensive tackles. The OG position appears solid with Paul Anderson and Troy Wolkow.

Foggie will be backed up by Alan Holt, who will be expected to shoulder a large part of the offensive responsibilities. Foggie has been Minnesota's total offense leader three straight years and he'll go into his senior season already holding the Minnesota total-offense record for most yards with 5,118.

Thompson should be even more devastating as a sophomore than he was as a freshman. Thompson set a Minnesota single-season rushing record with 1,240 yards. He was first-team All-Big Ten selection, led the conference in rushing and was Minnesota's most valuable player.

Gutekunst has indicated that Minnesota will run out of a Pro-I attack this season, and that will once again place Foggie and Thompson at center stage. How well it goes will depend on the quality of the play of the offensive line, Foggie's recovery from a stress fracture and whether Thompson can put sensational seasons back-to-back.

On defense, depth — or lack of it — was a factor in 1986 and Gutekunst hopes to find some from his transfers, redshirts or position changes. He also hopes to find some added quickness and a big play-type of defensive lineman who could help improve Minnesota's pass rush.

Besides position changes, Gutekunst also has made a coaching change on the defensive side of things. Dick Biddle, who served as linebacker coach the past two seasons, was elevated to the post of defensive coordinator prior to spring practice and will oversee Minnesota's preparations on that side of the ball in '87.

Michigan State

The Spartans were a major disappointment last year, a season that many predicted would find them in a



MSU's Lorenzo White

major bowl game. Michigan State started off the season with tough losses to Arizona State, Iowa and were also blown away by Michigan. But, towards the end of the season, when Michigan State had rallied to a 5-3 record, the bottom fell out on the Spartans. They were upset by Northwestern and Indiana before rallying to beat Wisconsin in the finale. But, before the season-ender, the effort of the Spartans was extremely questionable in the losses to the Wildcats and the Hoosiers.

Any way you look at it, Michigan State lost four games by three points in each contest, leaving the Spartans just short of achieving an outstanding campaign in a year that saw outstanding RB Lorenzo White hampered by a series of injuries, but also a tremendous passing performance by fifth-year QB veteran Dave Yarema.

An excellent nucleus of young players will be on hand for the season opener at home against Southern California in a nationally-televised Friday night affair.

The mainstays of the team include: White, who is coming off a subpar year due largely to injuries. If he can regain the superior form he displayed as a sophomore when he gained 1,908 yards and led the nation in rushing; All-America P Greg Montgomery with his 47.9 average in 1986; the swift and sure-handed pass-catching whiz Andre Rison, with his 966 yards on 54 pass receptions, and powerful DT Mark Nichols, who ranked fourth on the team in tackles.

The Spartans can also look for standout play from senior OLB Tim Moore, who plays the strong side and garnered 101 tackles to rank second on the team last fall, and from 297-pound offensive tackle Tony Mandarich, set to be a starter up front for the third straight year.

Perles has lost 19 players through the graduation route, including QB Dave Yarema, who completed his career with five all-time season records last fall — 297 passes attempted, 200 completed, 2,581 yards, a completion percentage of .673 and 16 TD passes. Other key players who have completed their eligibility include Bobby Morse, Mark Ingram, Shane Bullough and Dean Altobelli.

Perles believes the Spartans have an excellent chance of improving their won-lost record.

"We realize we were very close to having an excellent season in 1986. We have most of our people back. We do have to come up with a new starting quarterback, and all signs point to that man being Bobby McAllister. We think we can make progress towards our goal, and our goal remains the same since we got here — to win the championship.

"We get bigger, we get stronger and we want to improve our record at the same time. It is not rebuilding. It is striving to have a strong team, to have every base covered, and the only base we don't have covered is to have as many fifth-year seniors in those offensive and defensive lines."

Indiana

By all of Indiana's standards, the Hoosiers had an excellent 1986 season. They had their first winning record since 1980 and their first bowl trip since 1979. However, before fans in Bloomington start comparing Bill Mallory's team to Bobby Knight's national champions, remember that the Indiana football team finished only one game over .500 during the season.

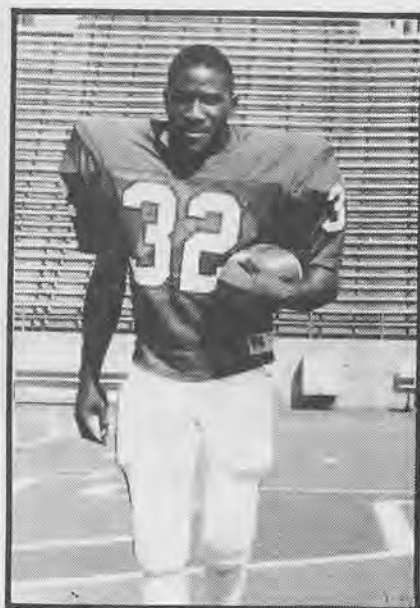
Still, there is a solid foundation that should serve as a base for better things in 1987. Experience should be one of the team's strengths as 51 lettermen return, all recruited under the Mallory regime.

The nucleus of last year's offense returns with sophomore TB Anthony Thompson heading up the backfield after posting some impressive figures in his rookie season — 806 yards and five touchdowns in 191 carries and nine games.

Senior Dave Kramme and junior Dave Schnell will battle for the starting QB spot as Schnell comes off of shoulder surgery which sidelined him for the last three games of the season.

Senior FB Tom Polce has started 23 consecutive games but should receive stiff competition from Andre Powell, who looked impressive in the All-American Bowl loss to Florida State. Three of last year's top four receivers return with Ernie Jones leading the way with 25 catches for 483 yards. Tony Buford and Kenny Allen will team with Jones to provide the long-ball threat.

Mallory loses starting offensive linemen in OT Bob Riley, C Dave Kinniry and TE Dave Lilja. Jeff Fryar,



RB Anthony Thompson

Berry Handley and Chris Simons will vie for the tackle position while Eric Moore will continue to hold down the other slot.

Joe Dedic, Tim Radtke and Don Shrader give the Hoosiers strong play from their OG positions. Brian Finney is the leading candidate to handle the snapping chores at center. TE's Carlos Marte and Tim Jorden both received considerable playing time last season as the Hoosiers used a double-TE alignment on occasion. Terence Saunders has moved from outside linebacker to tight end for spring practice. Mallory hopes that the offensive line will again be one of the team's stronger suits as last year's group led the ground game to 2,332 rushing yards.

Defensively, Indiana is led by Van Waiters, who returns for his senior season after setting school records with 24 tackles for loss and 14 sacks. He also led the team with 107 total stops. Walt Harris, Doug Schlereth, and Dan Bauer bring experience to the defensive line along with sophomore Dave Watercutter who earned a scholarship after walking on last season at noseguard. Joe Huff started eight games at outside linebacker last season, while Derrick Daniels and Dan Piercy add experience.

Last year's second and third-leading Hoosier tacklers Willie Bates and Brad Mitchell will anchor the middle once again from their ILB slots. Senior Larry Luther, who saw considerable action at noseguard last season, will move to linebacker this spring.

Mallory will have to rebuild the secondary. Erick Coleman and Joe Ziegler offer good speed at cornerback after a full year of playing time. The S positions are wide open. Brian Dewitz will get a look at free safety, making the transition from quarterback where he started six games last season. Marc Ferry, a letterman in 1985,

sat out 1986 with a separated shoulder, and is the leading candidate for the SS spot.

Kicking should be a strong point for Indiana as PK Pete Stoyanovich and P Dan Stryzinski are coming off of strong seasons. Stoyanovich set a school record with 30 extra points last year and made 11-of-18 field goals, including a record-tying 52-yard field goal. Stryzinski booted for a 41.1 average and a long of 55 yards. His 41.5 career average is a school record.

Wisconsin

The Badgers never got it in gear in 1986, following the untimely death of head coach Dave McClain in the off-season. However, new coach Don Morton will try to turn around last year's 3-9 record with a high-powered offense. Last year, at Tulsa, the Hurricane finished with a 7-4 record and ranked third nationally in rushing offense at 289 yards per game and 14th nationally in total offense at 414 yards per game.

In 1987, Wisconsin will return seven starters on offense, including QB Bud Keyes, who completed 93-of-174 passes for 1,002 yards and five TD's. Keyes also ran for 111 yards and three TD's. However, with the installation of a new veer-type of offense, Morton may lessen the pass influence which would open the doors to QB's Paul Chryst and Tim Kowalski.

But, while the veer offense should take some of the burden off the passing game, it will present a new challenge to HB's Marvin Artley, Steve Vinci, Andy Hartlieb, Leon Hunt, Eric Ford and Bill Rose. Looking to return from injury is Fred Owens. Of that group, Artley was the leading ballcarrier last year. He gained 338 yards on 77 attempts and scored two touchdowns. Vinci was also productive with 142 yards on 43 attempts.

As usual, the Badgers should have a productive group of wide receivers. While there are no potential Al Toons, lettermen Scott Bestor, Bill Williams, James Ross and Fred Bobo all have talent. If they are productive in the early-season games, Morton may decide to put the ball in the air more than most veer offenses.

Wisconsin has strength at tight end with starter Brian Anderson and lettermen Brant Kennedy and Daniel Howell. Anderson caught 16 passes for 118 yards while Kennedy snared 14 for 126 yards.

The offensive line is anchored by second team All-Conference OG Paul Gruber. Gruber has outstanding size at 6-4 and 291 pounds, and is a fierce competitor. Glenn Derby, at the other guard, is almost Gruber's equal at 6-6 and 290. Other returning starters include C Rod Lossow and OT Todd Nelson.

Defensively, the Badgers only return one starter from last year's team.



Wisconsin coach Don Morton

That may not be such bad news, considering they gave up an average of 22.2 points a game.

The defensive line is very inexperienced, and may possibly be exposed early in the season despite the presence of some talented players. The anchor on the line will have to be steady NT Chad Vande Zande, with help from DT Leon Johnson, John Banaszak, Jeff Wolf and Bill Antoine.

Victor Fortino and David Wings are the only returning inside linebackers. Both are hard hitters, but have to prove themselves over the length of a season. OLB's Tim Knoeck and Dan Kissling should provide some support against the pass.

In the secondary, the Badgers will definitely miss CB Nate Odomes, and Pete Nowka will have big shoes to fill. Nowka recorded 77 tackles, and had one interception.

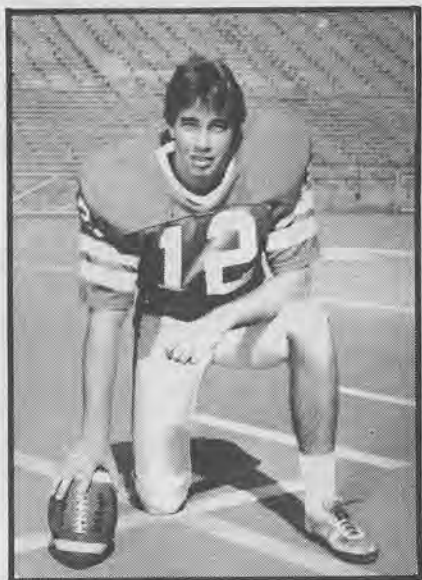
Northwestern

If the Wildcats ever have a chance to depart from their decade of doldrums, it appears that 1987 is the year. Coach Francis Peay made great strides last year and the team actually won four games, which was a major accomplishment.

While the talent of the 1987 Wildcats has yet to be evaluated, there is no question about the enthusiasm surrounding the team. Northwestern finished last year with wins over Michigan State and Illinois, and the team believes it has a chance to make even more progress.

"Momentum is a factor that diminishes by the next season into optimism," cautioned Peay. "The most evident benefits of our strong 1986 finish are that the players feel good about themselves and they really went at the conditioning aspect."

"Last year, we established some degree of potential," Peay said. "We must now identify and correct our weak-



Wisconsin QB Bud Keyes

nesses, and decide what approach will make optimum use of the talent available. The team feels it has a chance to improve, but only if the hard work continues."

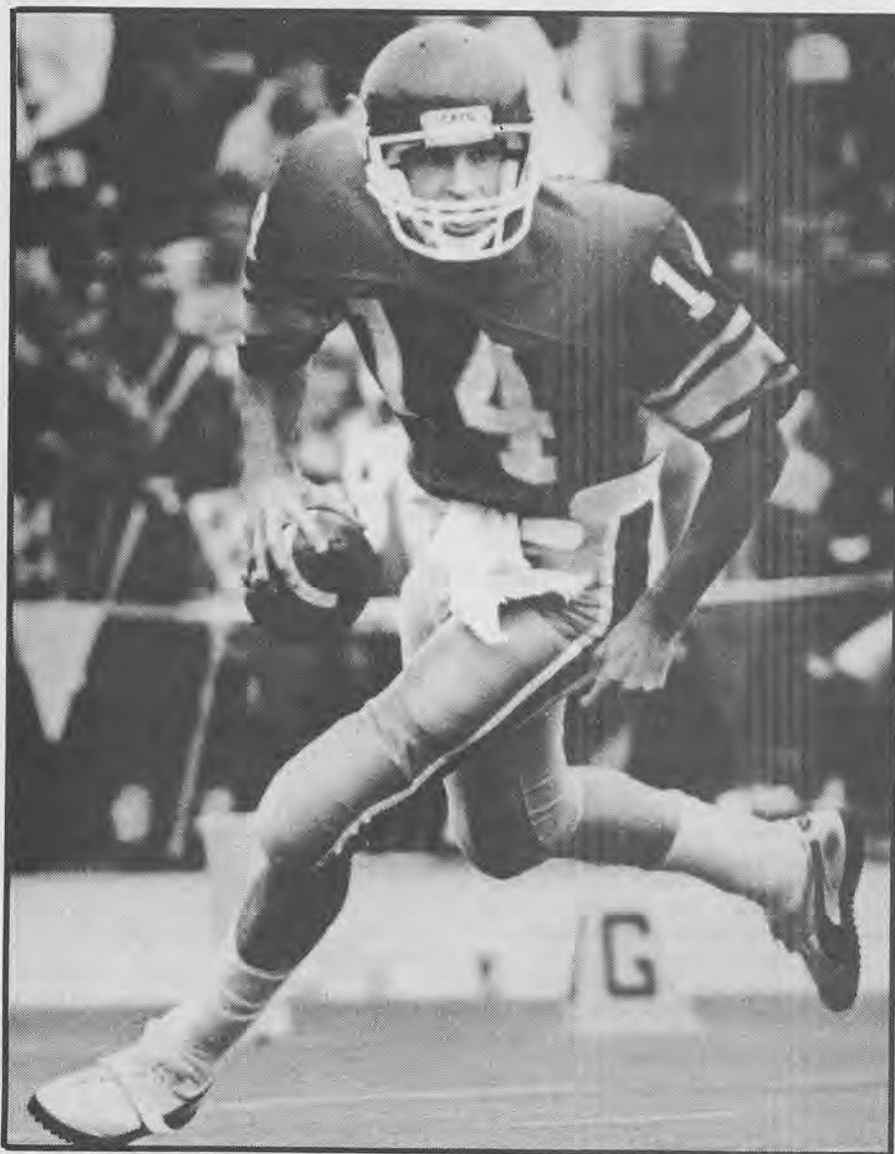
Offensively, Mike Greenfield will once again call the signals. Greenfield, who has opened 27 straight games as the Wildcat signal-caller, enters his senior season standing second on the Wildcats' all-time passing and total offense lists.

A dangerous runner and a consistent passer, Greenfield registered 1,653 passing yards and 418 rushing yards (second on the team) in 1986. Greenfield, the holder of nearly 20 school records, set NU marks for single-game passing and total offense with 446 aerial yards against Northern Illinois as a sophomore.

The HB position will again be manned by senior Stanley Davenport, who overcame illness and injury to become the Wildcats' top rusher a year ago. After suffering a knee injury in the 1986 spring game and a severe illness last summer, Davenport rushed for 703 yards and six touchdowns despite starting only five games. His career-best 155-yard effort against Iowa was highlighted by an 89-yard touchdown run, the fourth-longest rushing play in NU history. Davenport's 1,545 career yards pace him fourth in Wildcat annals.

Versatile fifth-year senior Ron Burton will start at fullback. Burton gained 248 yards and averaged a team-high 4.2 yards per carry in 1986 capping the season with 66 yards at Illinois after Davenport left the game with an injury. With the strength to run inside and enough speed to turn the corner, Burton will see action at both backfield spots.

Defensively, Northwestern's strong point should be the play of the linebackers. Seniors Alan Brown and Tom Kaukialo return as the starting inside linebackers after opening every game



Northwestern QB Mike Greenfield

last season. Brown has started 14 games in a row and placed second on the team in tackles last season with 95. He totaled 27 stops, two passes broken-up and a fumble recovery in the two wins over Michigan State and Illinois.

Kaukialo had 69 solo and 110 tackles last season, both team high totals, and added three interceptions and two passes broken up. Kaukialo registered 17 tackles against Iowa and 16 stops against Iowa.

Other key defensive players include rover Rich Myers, CB's Kyle Palmer and Jeff Robinson and DE Dave Holding.

Illinois

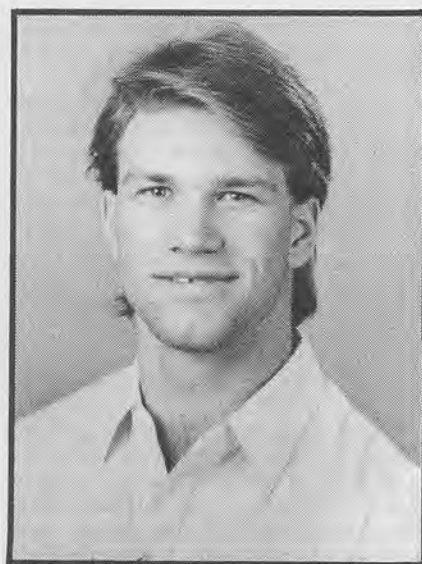
Any way you look at the situation, Illinois had a very disappointing season in 1986. The Illini finished with a 4-7 mark, and only finished with three Big Ten wins. Included in their season of doom was a 59-14 trouncing at the hands of Nebraska and a 69-13 embarrassment to Michigan.

Gone are the glory days of 1983 when Illinois was the undefeated league champion. So the team got embarrassed in the Rose Bowl by UCLA. Was that any reason for the program to start skidding?

As a result of three straight disappointing seasons, Mike White has made some changes. Only three of his nine assistant coaches have returned. Among the newcomers are a defensive and an offensive coordinator. In the past, White has served as the Illini offensive coordinator.

"It really was tough," said White of having to tell several longtime assistants that they were no longer employed. "Change is never easy. I met with each one at great length and tried to be very candid, and I've tried to help them get jobs.

"I felt we needed a change, with new people and new ideas. It's not that people weren't performing or aren't capable coaches. We'd just had a situation with very little movement and I felt — and we'll find out if I'm right or wrong — we needed more movement."



Illinois QB Brian Menkhausen

If White is wrong, don't expect to see his face around Champaign in 1988. Word has it, that if White does not get the program back on track this season, then it might be the end of the line for him at Illinois. Quite a fall from grace for a guy who was being mentioned for an NFL head-coach job only two years ago.

The Illini will base their offensive attack on the elusive Keith Jones. Jones was injured in the early part of 1986 but, when he did get into the lineup, he was an offensive force. He gained 559 yards on 133 carries and scored two touchdowns. Jones would have had the opportunity to gain more yards, but Illinois was often behind so early that they had to abandon their running game and go to the air.

Purdue

Former Texas coach Fred Akers has stepped into his first losing situation. In fact, with the departure of QB Jeff George to Miami (Fla.), the Purdue situation looks to be as much of disaster as last season.

The Boilermakers, 3-8 last year, had tremendous problems on defense even with the presence of Steeler rookie Rod (don't call me Ron) Woodson. When you give up 37 points to Michigan State, 36 to Minnesota and 34 to Illinois, defensive efficiency is not exactly the name of the game.

This year should not be much better for Akers. The defensive secondary has to be totally rebuilt, while the defensive line and linebacking crew needs a serious overhaul.

Akers believes the offensive line will be a strength as three regulars return along with two other players who started at least twice. OT Mike Connors anchors the trenches. He's a hard-nosed, hard-hitting ballplayer that can make an impact. Other returning veterans include Kieth Brown and OG Bruce Crites.



Purdue LB Fred Strickland pursues Irish QB Steve Beuerlein

Seniors Doug Downing and Jeff Huber are the leading candidates to start at quarterback. Downing, a starter in four games during 1986, was Purdue's best efficiency passer with 68 completions out of 137 attempts for 771 yards and five interceptions. Huber was 16-of-21 for 102 yards.

Three of the top five pass receivers are back from last season. TB Jerry Chaney had 46 receptions for 257 yards, FB Tony Grant grabbed 24 for 188 yards and FL Lance Scheib caught 16 for 197 yards and five TD's.

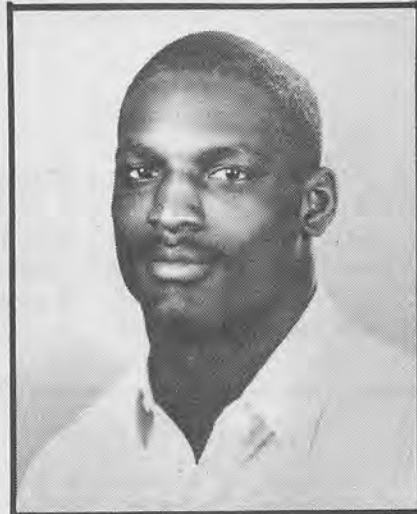
Additionally, FB-TB James Medlock caught 15 for 112 yards. FL Calvin Williams snared eight for 161 yards, an average of 20.1 yards per catch. Williams started five of the final six games after missing the first four contests due to a preseason broken clavicle. Brad Schumacher returns at tight end after starting twice last sea-

son.

Statistically, Purdue was last in the Big Ten, surrendering an average of 431.7 yards per contest last fall. A veteran line should be the strong point of this year's unit.

DE Tony Visco headlines the new 4-3 defensive alignment. He will play a down position after accumulating 270 career tackles as a three-year starter at outside linebacker. Other end possibilities include Dan Bulger and Scott Schult.

The strength of the beleaguered line-backing crew has to be MLB Fred Strickland, a second-team All-Big Ten choice last season. He paced the Boilers and was second in the league with 132 and 140 tackles in 1985 and 1986, respectively. Strickland's 311 career stops are tops on the team. Other linebackers include Matt Morgan, Todd Tieman and Jerrol Williams.



Illinois RB Keith Jones

In the secondary, Marc Foster, Ronnie Beeks and Scott Kalinowski will try to make up for the loss of Woodson. It will be a very difficult task, since none of the players can come close to matching Woodson's athletic ability.

The schedule-maker was not kind to Akers. Purdue will face five bowl teams, including three which were ranked in the Top 20 at the end of the season. The toughest teams on the slate appear to be Washington, Notre Dame and Ohio State. ■

Feist's Factors

■ Ohio State is 9-3 as a home favorite of 28 or more since 1973.

■ The home team is 10-1 ATS in the Ohio State-Minnesota rivalry since 1973.

■ The home team is 11-3 in the Michigan-Illinois rivalry since 1973.

■ Michigan is 10-4 as an underdog in the last 14 seasons.

■ Iowa is only 4-9 ATS at Purdue since 1973.

■ The Hawkeyes are 4-2 as a favorite vs. non-conference teams in the last four years.

■ Minnesota is 3-11 ATS at Wisconsin in the last 14 years.

■ Michigan State is 11-1 ATS vs. Minnesota since 1973.

■ Indiana has covered 10 of their last 12 ATS vs. Ohio State.

■ The home team is 9-1 in the Wisconsin-Illinois series in the last 10 games.

■ Northwestern has an 8-20 non-conference pointspread since 1973.

■ Illinois is 9-22 ATS vs. non-conference teams since 1973.

■ The underdog is 11-3 in the Purdue-Michigan State rivalry since 1973.

Independents

1986 Records

Penn State	12-0-0	Southern Miss.	6-5-0	Cincinnati	5-6-0	Navy	3-8-0
Miami (Fla.)	11-1-0	S.W. Louisiana	6-5-0	Syracuse	5-6-0	Louisville	3-8-0
Virginia Tech	9-2-1	Temple	6-5-0	Notre Dame	5-6-0	East Carolina	2-9-0
Boston College	9-3-0	Pittsburgh	5-5-1	Tulane	4-7-0	Northern Illinois	2-9-0
Tulsa	7-4-0	Rutgers	5-5-1	West Virginia	4-7-0	Memphis State	1-10-0
Florida State	7-4-1	Army	6-5-0	South Carolina	3-6-2		

Miami (Fla.)

If the University of Miami is the new "Quarterback U.," who's going to be the next in line after successive years of Jim Kelly, Bernie Kosar and Vinny Testaverde?

An unknown sophomore now, Steve Walsh has coach Jimmy Johnson's nod as the Hurricane signalcaller for 1987 and, if he turns out to be as good as Kelly, Kosar, et al, watch for Walsh to be a Heisman Trophy favorite in '88 and '89.

Just how good is Walsh? Some say he's just like Kosar was as a freshman back in '83; Walsh's arm isn't as strong as Kosar's, but he's more mobile.

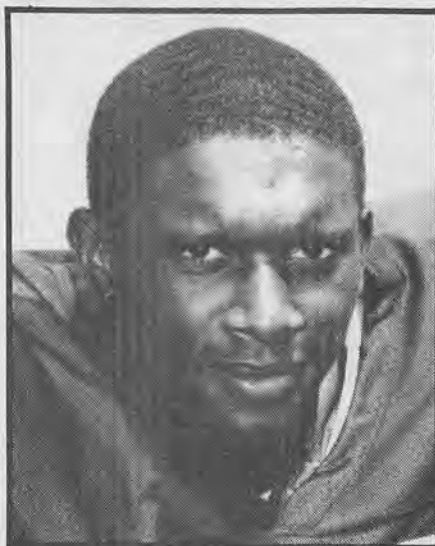
Walsh will lead a talented team that returns 15 starters — nine from the defense — from last year's No. 2 ranked team.

Miami has won 21 straight regular-season games and 15 straight on the road. The Canes' schedule is tougher than last year — Florida, Florida State, Arkansas and Notre Dame are formidable opponents — but there's still a few patsys such as Cincinnati, Miami of Ohio and Toledo. No reason Miami shouldn't go 10-1.

Offensively, Walsh will be throwing to record-setting WR Michael Irvin, a junior who already has 20 touchdowns; speedster Brian Blades; Brett Perriman and Andre Brown. Losing FB Alonzo Highsmith to the pros doesn't help, but returning to the backfield are Melvin Bratton, Cleveland Gary, Warren Williams and a host of others. Bratton has been injury prone and, if that happens in '87, someone is going to have to pick up the slack. When he's on — remember his four touchdowns against Boston College in 1984? — there's not a more exciting runner in the country.

Miami loses four starters off its offensive line, but returnees Maurice Maddox, John O'Neill, Matt Patchan and Mike Pigza have seen plenty of playing time.

On defense, remember the name of DE Danny Stubbs. Many think he's better than Jerome Brown, last year's All-America, and he's one of the favorites for the Outland Trophy in '87. At 6-4, 240, Stubbs has 29 sacks



Tim Brown

in the last two seasons and could be the best of a long string of great defensive linemen at UM.

Johnson's defensive front is intact, other than the loss of Brown, with Stubbs, Bill Hawkins, Derwin Jones, Jimmie Jones and Dan Sileo. George Mira Jr., the leading tackler in '85 and '86, keys the linebackers, along with Rod Carter and soph sensation Willis Peguese.

Although it will be tough for teams to run on the Canes, it won't be easy to throw on them, either. Bennie Blades, who led the nation with 10 interceptions last year, is back, along with Tolbert Bain, Selwyn Brown, Donald Ellis, Darrell Fullington and Bubba McDowell.

PK Greg Cox and P Jeff Feagles also return, though they will have some competition.

With Johnson, UM's winningest coach ever with a 29-8 record in three seasons, expect to see a high-scoring offense, though it will probably be more ball-control oriented with shorter passes to the backs and tight ends. Expect another season in the top five for the Hurricanes.

And what will happen if something happens to Testaverde's successor Walsh? Sitting on the bench are sophs Bill Turkowski, a prep All-America, and Greg Jones, an all-stater in '85, and freshman Craig Erickson, last



Terry Andrysiak

year's top Florida quarterback. And, sitting in the wings for a year, is Purdue transfer Jeff George, the top high school quarterback in the nation two years ago.

Notre Dame

Notre Dame has a problem, though it's one many teams would love to have. The Fighting Irish have perhaps the most exciting college football player in the country in FL Tim Brown, who is the early favorite for the Heisman Trophy.

The problem is that they are having a hard time finding someone to get the ball to Brown.

Terry Andrysiak, a senior who backed up Steve Beuerlein last year, has nailed down the starting QB job, but, says coach Lou Holtz, "What happens in the fall will be up to Terry."

Andrysiak is a good but streaky passer, according to Holtz, and, after Brown, there is little depth in the receiving corps.

The Irish do have a veteran offensive line and a good stable of running backs, including FB Braxton Banks, who should receive a lot of notice after Brown.

At tailback, last year's leading rusher, Mark Green, is No. 1. Alonzo Jefferson, making a comeback after

serious knee surgery, has battled his way into the No. 2 spot, though he doesn't have the quickness he once had. The top six rushers return, so there is a load of depth.

The Irish offensive line also figures to be a strong point, thanks to the return of four fifth-year senior starters — C Chuck Lanza, OG Tom Freeman and OG's Byron Spruell and Tom Rehder.

The defense concerns Holtz the most, since he has to replace 10 starters. The only returning defensive starter is CB Marv Spence, but Holtz likes the chemistry of the new group he's putting together. He's especially pleased with a trio of inside linebackers — Wes Pritchett, Mike Stonebreaker and Ned Bolcar. Two years ago, Bolcar was the most highly publicized prep prospect in the nation. FB Frank Stams, injured last year, has been switched to outside linebacker. The other outside linebacker spot is up for grabs.

The Irish also lost both kickers, including much-maligned PK John Carney.

Brown, who already runs, catches and returns kickoffs, will add punt returns to his duties this year.

Overall, despite a disturbing lack of depth, Holtz thinks he may have a better team than the one that went 5-6 in his first season.

"We won't be nearly as talented as we were last year," he said. "But I



Penn State's Pete Curkendall

think we have a better chance to be a better football team."

The schedule includes Michigan in the opener, Miami (Fla.) in the finale, and Michigan State, Purdue, Pitt, Southern Cal, Boston College, Alabama and Penn State in between.

Penn State

The 1987 Penn State squad will have a lot of new faces and, perhaps, a different look as well.

Joe Paterno loses 15 starters off last year's national champions, four of them All-Americans.

Fifth-year senior Matt Knizner will start at quarterback and isn't one of Paterno's concerns. He could be better than John Shaffer, who won 23 games in the last three years but never impressed statistically. Knizner played in spot situations the last two seasons.

If injuries can be avoided, the Nittany Lions will have a swift and experienced cast of receivers. Ray Roundtree, who has averaged better than 18 yards per catch in two seasons, and Jim Coates, the primary punt and kickoff return leader last year, will join burners Michael Tipson and Mike Alexander in vying for the two wideout spots.

Blair Thomas will replace D.J. Dozier at tailback. He carried for 504 yards last year, including a 92-yard run and a 91-yard kickoff return. Finding a successor to departed FB's Tim Manoa and Steve Smith will be more difficult. Sean Redman, who had 55 yards last year, is a possibility, along with Chris Thorpe and Sean Barowski.

Two starters return on the offensive line, but, like most schools who are annually in the top 10, replacing graduates is never a problem in the trenches. They'll be no-names, but they'll be good.

From its intimidating defense of a year ago, the Lions must replace seven starters. DT Pete Curkendall is the mainstay there, and could be an All-America candidate. Mitch Frerotte will start opposite him. Matt Johnson will

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The strength of the '87 defense figures to be the inside linebackers, where both of last year's starters — Trey Bauer and Pete Giftopoulos — are back. The two spots outside them are up for grabs among a bevy of talent.

CB Eddie Johnson and Marques Henderson are back in the secondary.

Paterno also has another worry for the first time in four years: how to find two new kickers. Massimo Manca and John Bruno are gone, and the coach admits he doesn't have a feel for anyone yet. That could be a worry unless someone comes through soon.

The Nittany Lion schedule is tough, as always. Penn State has home clashes with Alabama, Temple, West Virginia and Notre Dame and travels to Boston College, Syracuse, Maryland and state-rival Pitt.

As Paterno admits, "I'm concerned about depth. We're literally trying to regroup in just about every position. I think we have enough football players to be a decent team."

Understated, as usual. You'll see Penn State among the nation's best again.

Florida State

Few teams can boast a squad that returns as many starters and key players as Florida State does in 1987. Only three starters left due to graduation, and 43 of the top 50 players are back. Coach Bobby Bowden feels the '87 Seminoles are deeper and more talented than any of his teams since the 1979-80 Orange Bowl year.

FSU is fresh off a 7-4-1 season and its fifth straight bowl appearance. It's a safe bet that string will continue in '87, as the Seminoles are preseason Top 10 picks.

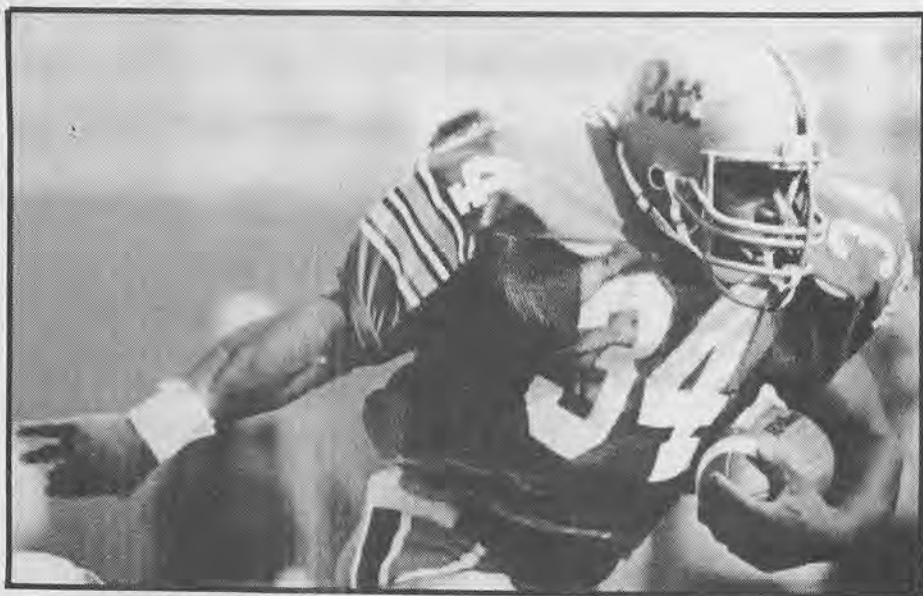
Florida State's schedule is more manageable this year with teams like Texas Tech, East Carolina and Furman thrown in with Miami, Auburn and Florida.

Giant Pat Tomberlin leads an experienced offensive line that should have a great time blocking for an incredible stable of runners.

Eight different backs contributed last year and all are back in '87, including TB Sammie Smith, the horse to watch. Smith, the most ballyhooed high-school recruit in Florida state history in 1985, was redshirted in '85 and hampered by injuries last year until the season finale against Florida, when he ran over, under and around defenders in a driving rainstorm for 116 yards. A month later, against Indiana, he hit for 205 yards and walked away with MVP honors.

Backup TB's Victor Floyd, Keith Ross and Dexter Carter and FB's Dayne Williams and David Palmer could start for many teams, and will contribute heavily to FSU's ground-dominated attack.

Danny McManus is the odds-on favorite at quarterback, but he'll feel



Pittsburgh's bruising bulldozer — Craig Heyward

pressure from Chip Ferguson, who started three games in '86. Both are extremely capable.

Few teams also have the depth and quality FSU has at wide receiver in Herb Gainer — the leading receiver in '86 — and a host of others. Senior Pat Carter is a sure-fire pro prospect at tight end and can literally do it all. He's 6-4, 260 and comes from the same mold as ex-Seminole Zeke Mowatt and Orson Mobley.

On the other side of the ball, only DT Gerald Nichols and LB Fred Jones have graduated. Two bonafide All-Americans dot the holdovers, LB Paul McGowan and CB Deion Sanders. McGowan finished seventh in voting for the Butkus award for the best linebacker last year and had the second-most votes of any returning player this year, while Sanders has been called FSU's best "natural athlete" ever. The Seminole secondary has played together for two complete seasons.

It figures that Florida State will score almost at will this year but, if it does get into a few close games, count on PK Derek Schmidt to settle the score. Schmidt should break almost every FSU kicking record.

Still, Bowden will admit, "If we were all that good, we wouldn't have lost four and tied one last year. We've got the same players."

True, but Bowden has always been the master of the understatement.

Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh coach Mike Gottfried has a primary objective in mind when he looks toward the '87 season: Find a quarterback.

The QB slot is wide open, but Gottfried, in his second year at Pitt, has three players he thinks are quite capable — Sal Genilla, Joe Felitsky and Larry Wanke. Genilla and Felitsky played a considerable amount after John Congemi was injured. Felitsky

will probably win out.

Whomever it is, he'll have Reggie Williams to throw to. Williams was off to a record-setting year with 17 receptions for 239 yards before being injured and missing the remainder of the season. Bill Osborn, an honorable mention All-America with 33 catches for 414 yards, is at flanker but, overall, there isn't much depth at wide receiver.

Pitt is light on the number of backs it has, but heavy on one of them — Craig Heyward, a 6-0, 260-pound bulldozer who exploded for 756 yards and caught 29 passes for 361 more. He gained 250 yards against Miami (Fla.) alone. Senior RB Charles Gladman ranks fourth on Pitt's all-time rushing list. The Panther offense does have strength in the trenches with an experienced offensive line.

All four starters — seniors Billy Owens, Gary Richard and Teryl Austin and junior Quintin Jones — will combine for an experienced, solid secondary. Junior Jerry Olsavsky led the Panthers with 127 tackles from his LB spot and is starting to draw notice, as is DT Tony Siagusa and DE Burt Grossman, All-East performers in '86.

Gottfried remains committed to his promise of restoring Pitt to national prominence, and the '87 Panthers should improve on last year's 5-5-1 record. Still, he'll miss players like Congemi, Tony Woods and Randy Dixon until someone steps in to fill the leadership void. With 18 starters back, including both kickers, the transition won't be as severe as the past two years when he was trying to undo the doings of Foge Fazio.

Gottfried has seven home games this year, but the schedule includes Notre Dame, Penn State, Brigham Young, West Virginia, and Boston College. What he lacks in lettermen, he made up for in a recruiting class that many call one of the five best in the country. If Pitt doesn't come all the way back in '87, give him some time.

Boston College

Coach Jack Bicknell's Boston College Eagles face one of the most demanding schedules in the country in 1987 — road games against Southern Cal, Pittsburgh, Notre Dame and Syracuse and home contests versus Penn State, West Virginia and Tennessee.

Obviously, repeating last year's 9-3 record (and a Hall of Fame Bowl victory) will not be an easy thing to do, but the Eagles have a powerful arsenal of offensive and defensive weapons.

Offensively, Boston College will feature the same explosive, pass-oriented attack of '86. On the defense, a combination of a solid linebacking corps, top-notch defensive ends and a veteran defensive backfield should make things sticky for opponents.

Bicknell's biggest worry is how to replace QB Shawn Halloran, who passed or 8,252 yards and 42 touchdowns in his career. Two talented young signalcallers, Mike Power and Mark Kamphaus, are battling for the starting nod. Neither saw much action due to injuries last year.

Bicknell also has major rebuilding to do in the backfield, where replacing RB Troy Stradford won't be easy. Senior Jim Bell (87 carries for 307 yards and three TD's) will start at tailback and veterans Jim Turner and Jon Bronner are back at fullback. Turner gained 152 yards and Bronner added 313 in '86.

Even though All-America OT Steve Trapilo and star C Darren Twombly have graduated, the Eagles have an experienced group lining up on the ball this season. Heading the list is OG Joe Wolf, an honorable mention All-America last year.

Darren Flutie is back at wide receiver (35 receptions for 531 yards and 5 TD's in '86), and will team up with Tom Waddle (18 for 160, 1 TD) to give the Eagles a scoring threat, provided they find someone to get the ball to them. Peter Caspariello will likely emerge as one of the nation's top tight ends; he caught 18 passes for 229 yards last year.

Seniors Eric Lindstrom and Bill Thompson give B.C. one of the top DE tandems in college football. Linebacker will be a real strength with honorable mention All-America Bill Romanowski, who had 123 tackles and four interceptions last year and is one of college football's best. Veterans Steve Williams, Gerrick McPhearson, Vincent Munn and Ed Duran head an experienced backfield.

Bicknell has only 11 starters returning from last year's squad, but he has more depth than most teams and a fine freshman class, so expect the Eagles to make it to a bowl game for the fifth time in six seasons.

West Virginia

Don Nehlen enters his eighth season as coach at West Virginia



B.C. coach Jack Bicknell

hoping to have a more consistent football team in 1987.

Nehlen, who has guided the Mountaineers to an impressive 52-29-1 record and four bowl appearances during his tenure, saw his team slip to 4-7 last season.

"We were not happy, to say the least, with our football team's performance last season," Nehlen said. "Consistency is the main ingredient. We lacked that last season and it really showed in the end result."

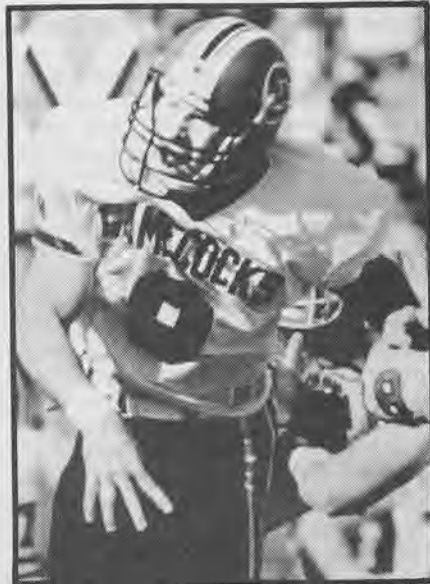
As is the case in any new campaign, there are questions to answer and holes to fill. A big priority is solving the QB riddle. Mike Timko, who started eight games last season, is No. 1, however he is anything but assured of the job. Timko completed 90-of-189 passes for 1,191 yards and eight touchdowns last year. Ben Reed, who started three games, is in the hunt.

Though the Mountaineers lost just three starters on offense and four on the other side of the ball, Nehlen is concerned with many positions. Fullback is a major void, while the line is the strongest area on the offense.

Undra Johnson (652 yards on 138 carries and five touchdowns) is the top returning back, and will get some help from A.B. Brown, a transfer from Pitt.

This could be the year of the wide receiver at WVU. The Mountaineers return four lettermen, including both starters, Harvey Smith (28 catches for 456 yards and five touchdowns in '86) and John Talley (27 for 353 and two TD's). Calvin Phillips and Grantis Bell will also see considerable action.

West Virginia has always been traditionally tough on defense and this season the Mountaineers again look as though they can be a dominant defensive team. Only four starters have been lost, and Matt Smith has the potential to become one of WVU's best linebackers ever. However, half of the secondary must be replaced.



South Carolina QB Todd Ellis

A big question mark lingers at middle guard, where David Grant returns for his last season. He has looked awesome at times during his career, but slipped last season. The big question is: Which David Grant will show up in 1987?

Virginia Tech

Coming off the most successful season in school history, Virginia Tech will try to keep its football stock soaring this fall with a new coaching staff and a lot of new faces in the lineup.

Gone are 12 starters and three leading specialists who helped the Hokies cap a 9-2-1 season with a stirring last-second victory over North Carolina State in the Peach Bowl.

But new coach Frank Beamer, the first alumnus to head the Hokie program in 42 years, feels that Tech has the nucleus of another good team. Prior to replacing Bill Dooley, Beamer produced powerhouse teams for six years at Murray State.

And now he warns that the Hokies lost a number of key players and face perhaps the toughest schedule in school history, including dates with Clemson, Syracuse and Miami (Fla.).

The Hokies return 10 starters, five each on offense and defense, and also will have back PK Chris Kinzer, the nation's leading field goal kicker whose late heroics gave Tech the Peach Bowl win.

Back to direct the show for the second straight year is QB Erick Chapman, who was brilliant in '86 and wound up with 1,627 passing yards and 10 TD's. Back in the fold are his top three receivers, TE Steve Johnson (33 for 391 yards and three TD's), and WR's Davis Everett (15 for 205) and Myron Richardson (9 for 112).

Three experienced fullbacks return to make it one of Tech's strongest positions — Earnie Jones, Sean Donnelly and Rich Fox, but there's no such luck at tailback, where Malcolm

Blacken, who gained only 68 yards last season, seems to be the choice.

Kevin Keefe, Tech's best offensive lineman in '86, is back, but most of his playmates in the trenches are gone. The Hokie defensive front was almost completely wiped out with the loss of six starters. LB Jamel Agemy and S Carter Wiley are the top returners on the defense, and both are solid all-star candidates. Agemy was the team's second-leading tackler last fall and Wiley was right behind.

With all the defensive changes, Beamer has installed a new defensive scheme, the wide tackle six, which doesn't have a nose guard. Also, some players who were formerly defensive backs, will line up at outside line-backing positions.

South Carolina

Frustration was the key word for South Carolina in 1986. Coach Joe Morrison's Gamecocks went 3-6-2, but the record was deceiving. Three of the losses were by a total of nine points, and last-second field-goal tries by South Carolina were off target in the two ties.

However, frustration was not the only description of the '86 unit, and the same will be true this year. Excitement will also be prevalent with Morrison's Run-and-Shoot offense. In '86, the Gamecocks were third in the nation in passing offense, 16th in total offense and 17th in scoring.

As is usually the case, South Carolina's schedule is dotted with top caliber teams, including a three-game string early in the season against Miami (Fla.), Georgia and Nebraska.

Eight starters return on both the offense and defense and, with Todd Ellis back at quarterback, South Carolina figures to be vastly improved — if it can survive those three games. Ellis, only a sophomore, shattered NCAA and South Carolina records in his freshman season and earned national recognition for his exploits. He mastered the Run and Shoot quickly and completed 205-of-340 passes (63 percent) for 3,020 yards and 20 touchdowns for the season. He's a sure-fire All-America candidate in a year or two.

Ellis has a bevy of receivers to throw to, including Sterling Sharpe, Kevin White, Ryan Bethea and Vic McConnell. Sharpe, a wingback, ranked among the nation's leaders in '86 with 74 catches for 1,106 yards and 10 TD's. He's also an excellent kick returner. Bethea usually played opposite him and caught 28 balls for 605 yards and five scores.

RB Harold Green is the best of the returners in the backfield and is coming off a fine freshman season in which he was second on the team in rushing with 388 yards and six TD's and caught 18 passes.

Morrison has switched to a "50" defense from the even front 4-3 defense of the last few years. Roy Hart, a 6-0,

245-pound noseguard, is the key performer in the switch. Last year he led the linemen with 73 tackles and is a fine pass rusher.

Derrick Little found his home at middle linebacker last year and had 88 tackles despite missing two games. The Gamecocks will be tough to run against, but teams who attempt to pass will find themselves looking at Greg Philpot and Brad Edwards, one of the best safety tandems in the country. Both are excellent tacklers and ball-hawkers.

Syracuse

If the Syracuse Orangemen start off the way they finished in '86, look for them to be among the nation's elite in '87. Coach Dick MacPherson's squad

holds down one receiver spot, while William Pennyfeather and Rob Moore are the chief competitors on the other side. Starting TE Pat Kelly, who was second to Schwedes in receptions last season, and his backup Pat Davis are back and will both see action. Kelly (20) and Davis (12) combined to give SU 32 catches from that position.

Three starters are gone from the offensive line. Returnees LT Craig Stoeppel and John Garrett, who is moving from left guard to center, will hold down the fort.

NG Ted Gregory, who missed nine games last season with a broken leg, is back, giving the Orangemen nine returning starters on defense. Gregory's impact on the defensive line cannot be stressed enough. If he's healthy, look for Syracuse to return to



South Carolina's breakout back Harold Green

opened the '86 campaign with four losses, before turning things around and going 5-2 the rest of the way.

Sixteen starters are back and, although players like WR Scott Schwedes will be missed, MacPherson has several to step in and take over.

Don McPherson is the quarterback. A senior, he already holds Syracuse career records for passing yardage and touchdowns and season records for nearly every category. All this in barely 1 1/2 years.

Add the remaining two-thirds of last year's starting backfield, ever-improving FB Daryl Johnston and TB-turned-WR-turned-TB Robert Drummond, and you have a solid backfield. Throw in the expected debut of 1985 Pennsylvania player of the year Michael Owens, who sat out last year under Proposition 48, and watch the fireworks.

Tommy Kane, who finished third on the squad in receptions with 19 despite missing four games with a broken leg,

its place among the national leaders in rushing defense. John Dominic will make room for Gregory's return, moving over to tackle, where he'll be joined by Paul Frase. If Syracuse goes with a 4-3 alignment, Robert Burnett will be the fourth down lineman.

Keith Friberg will be the fourth linebacker if MacPherson stays with a 3-4, and will be joined by the other two returning starters, Derek Ward, the team's second-leading tackler, and sensational sophomore Terry Wooden. Redshirt freshman Roger Carges, who nearly won a starting spot last year, is the heir apparent to Tim Pidgeon's inside spot.

The defensive backfield will benefit from another year's experience. Four of the top five return, with star FS Markus Paul, SS Jeff Mangram, CB Chris Ingam and nickel back Jeff Buskirk.

When games are close, look for PK Tim Vesling to settle the score; he's one of the best in the country.

Southern Mississippi

Southern Mississippi earned a 6-5 record last year with perhaps the strongest schedule in its history, and this year, the schedule includes Alabama, Texas A&M, Florida State, Mississippi State and several other strong opponents.

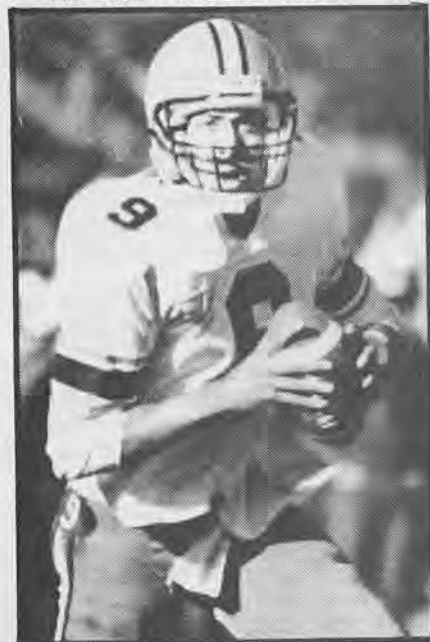
Lucky for coach Jim Carmody that he has 14 starters returning. The problem is that few of them are in the so-called "skill" positions.

He needs a new quarterback to replace Andrew Anderson. Inexperienced Ailrick Young gets the nod. A junior, Young played sparingly last year, throwing only 13 passes, and is being tutored by Carmody and his staff to handle the reins.

Receivers Lyneal Alston and Andrew Mott are gone, so Anderson will look to TE Carlos Powell most of the time.

Carl Jones and Clint Watson take over at fullback, bringing with them a grand total of 33 yards gained rushing last year. Tailback is up for grabs among Ratley Vessell, Craig Shackelford and Boobie Nathan. Shackelford was fourth on the team in rushing last year with 321 yards gained.

The entire offensive line — OT's



Syracuse QB Don McPherson

Rick Slater and Pat Ferrell, OG's Jay Sherron and Tim Hallman and C Jim Ferrell — are back.

On the other side of the ball, DE's Pat Jackson and Steve Brown are back, along with DT Ulysses Slaughter, NT Larry Davis, LB's Onesimus Henry and Sidney Coleman and defensive backs Jonathan Robertson and Vincent Rollins.

Carmody has another problem to contend with: Wholesale coaching changes in the offseason, including the coordinators for both offense and defense.

Akron

Zip football . . . on the move in 1987.

That's the slogan at the University of Akron, where Gerry Faust heads into his second season following his departure from Notre Dame.

Without question, the Zip gridders are going to have a new look this year. With just 24 lettermen and 11 starters returning off last season's 7-4 squad, Faust is forced with a major rebuilding job. He couldn't do it at Notre Dame, so time will tell if he can produce a consistent winner at Akron, where the pressure to move into the top annals of college football is staring over his shoulders.

The timing isn't the best, however. Akron will be the first NCAA school to move from Division 1-AA to 1-A this year.

"No doubt, we're going to be a very, very young football team," admits Faust. "We have a lot of question marks."

Especially decimated was the Zip offense, which has only four starters returning. Gone are UA's all-time leading rusher Mike Clark and passer Vernon Stewart. Clark accounted for 1,786 yards last year while Stewart passed for 1,200 and gained 352 more on the ground.

Quarterback is wide open this year, with soph Andy Kubik and transfers Duane Shields, John Cook and Steve Brown battling for the nod. Kubik threw only 41 passes last year.

The heir-apparent for Clark is soph Derek Alston, who rushed for 206 yards in limited action in '86. Part-time starter Dan Hampton at fullback is back; he was second on the team with 375 yards.

Milt Kimbrough and Ed Andrade return at receiver, though the duo caught just 11 passes between them last year. Kimbrough could be the big-play guy Faust is looking for if someone can get him the ball.

OT John Buddenberg and OG Gregg Townsend are the only returnees on the offensive line, although Shawn Fagan saw considerable action at guard.

Pierce Joiner and Doug Knepp are two starters who'll retain their positions on the defensive front, while the linebacker corps is wide open. The strongest area on defense is the secondary, where Faust has good speed and good athletes returning, especially in S's Bob Lyons and Gary Tyler, the team's two leading interceptors in '86.

Like at Notre Dame, Faust feels he's the man to do the job. Time will tell.

Holy Cross

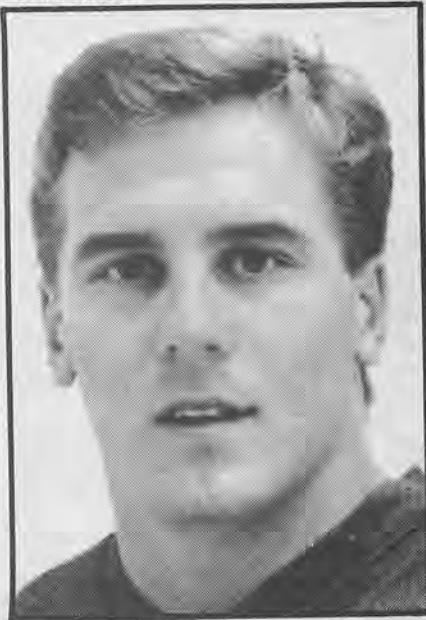
Heisman Trophy candidate Gordie Lockbaum is the main reason the Holy Cross Crusaders went 10-1 last year and he's back again for 1987.

Lockbaum is a do-everything player — he led Holy Cross with 827 yards at theTB position, and is one of the

most exciting players in the nation.

QB Jeff Wiley is already a prolific author in the Crusader record books, having penned nearly every season record a year ago. Now he's going for the career records. He's a fine dropback passer who also throws extremely well on the run.

At fullback is Tom Kelleher, second to Lockbaum in rushing in '86 with 737 yards. He provides the perfect complement to the All-America candidate — he can block like a truck and runs well enough to keep opposing teams honest.



Holy Cross' Gordie Lockbaum

Lee Hull, Rick Lane and Wally Demboski will vvy for the receiver slots. Hull was injured last year, but was a preseason All-America pick. Along with Vic Washington, they'll all catch a ton of passes from Wiley.

All-America candidate Ron George anchors an offensive line which helped the Crusaders to their gangbuster season a year ago. George was All-East last year and will be better. Three other starters return — C Craig Clarkin and OT's Jim Miller and Mark Stoy. They're all big and bad.

Holy Cross' defense will be nearly as exciting as its offense. DT's Mike Jednakl and Andy Martin are possible All-East performers, and Big Jim Kelly is a terror at end. The Crusaders will miss Jerry McCabe at linebacker, but the secondary set a school record last year with 32 thefts and all four starters are back.

All in all, Holy Cross may not make the top 20, but it'll certainly be a team to watch in the East.

S.W. Louisiana

To borrow a phrase from the Houston Oilers, Southwest Louisiana's Ragin' Cajuns knocked on the door in '86.

But, as coach Nelson Stokley will

tell you, too many times the door was shut in their faces in the closing seconds of several games in a 6-5 campaign.

Stokley's high-powered Run-and-Shoot offense and a host of defensive standouts could give the USL squad an exciting year in '87, too.

The Cajuns face three Southeast Conference teams (Alabama, Ole Miss and Mississippi State) on the road, in addition to Oklahoma State, so another 6-5 record would be welcomed this go around.

"We could have a much better team this year and our record may not show it," Stokley admits. Just don't tell the alumni that.

His offense features two talented quarterbacks in Richard Pannell (989 yards passing and 266 rushing in '86) and Brian Mitchell (585 and 514), and both see plenty of action. Both accounted for over 1,000 yards in total offense.

Whoever is in the game will be looking to WR Willie Culpepper, who caught 30 passes for 651 yards in '86.

The offensive line returns All-South OT Tin Calcagno and three seniors in C Cardell Randle, OG Dennis Frederick and OT R.C. Mullin.

DE Chris Gannon is the Cajuns' All-America candidate. Just a junior, he's one of the more intense players in the country.

USL employs an eight-man front that headlines LB's Theron Harrison, Jim Brenner and Randy Guidry. The problem is the interior, where Stokley has some holes to fill.

Tulane

Tulane heads into the 1987 season with 17 starters returning from last year's 4-7 squad.

You can look at that two ways: Those players aren't too good if they won only four games last year, or, so many players returning means an improved record in '87. Tulane coach Mack Brown believes those 17 players can turn the record around.

Terrence Jones, one of the nation's premier quarterbacks, will direct the Green Wave offense. He is the first player to amass over 3,000 yards in total offense during his first two seasons and Brown sees him as the catalyst to better things.

A great option quarterback, Jones hit on 159-of-284 passes for 10 TD's in '86 and gained 547 more on the ground while scoring eight times himself.

For the first time in Brown's three-year tenure at Tulane, the backfield is experienced. FB Rodney Hunter (657 yards and six TD's) and TB Marvin Allen (373 yards and one TD) surrounded Jones as the No. 1 and No. 2 rushers last year. Marc Zeno returns for his senior season at wide receiver to give Tulane its strongest area on offense. In '86, he caught 68 passes for 1,033 yards and seven scores. He

Feist's Factors

■Miami (Fla.) has blown away Big Eight competition in the past 14 years with a 10-2 pointspread record.

■Notre Dame is a combined 5-16 ATS vs. Big Ten rivals Michigan and Michigan State since 1973.

■Penn State is 11-3 ATS vs. West Virginia in the last 14 years.

■Florida State is 7-0 as home underdogs of 10 or more since 1973.

■Pittsburgh is just 3-7 ATS vs. Navy since 1973.

■The home team is 10-3 in the Boston College-Syracuse series since 1973.

■West Virginia is 3-11 vs. Penn State over the past 14 seasons.

■Virginia Tech was 0-3 as a home favorite vs. independents last year.

■South Carolina is 14-5 as a home favorite since 1973.

■The favorite is 11-2 in the Syracuse-Boston College series since 1973.

■Southern Mississippi is 3-1 vs. the spread vs. Alabama since 1973.

■The visitor is 11-3 ATS in the Holy Cross-Colgate series since 1973.

■Tulane is 9-5 ATS vs. arch-rival Louisiana State since 1973.

■The favorite is 10-3 in the Army-Air Force game since 1973.

■Tulsa is 2-8 as an underdog of 6 1/2 to 20 since 1980.

■East Carolina is 4-8 as an underdog of less than 10 in the last 14 seasons.

■Temple is 5-0 as underdogs of 20 or more since 1982.

■Rutgers is just 1-9 ATS combined vs. West Virginia and Pittsburgh.

■Cincinnati is 2-11 as road underdogs in the last eight years.

■Colgate is 12-5 as an away favorite of less than 10 since 1973.

■Navy is 13-7 ATS vs. ACC teams since 1973.

■Memphis State is 6-16 ATS as a favorite of 10 or less since 1973.

■Louisville is 1-10 ATS at home in the last seven seasons.

the top 10 receivers nationally for two seasons. TE Chuck Gorman is okay.

Seven starting defenders are back. Sophomore Richard Sauter leads a very inexperienced group on the defensive line. By contrast, linebacker is the most experienced part. Richard Harvey (the team's second leading tackler), Troy Wetzel, Chris Marshall and Vincent Mulmore are the mainstays. Thurston Harrison, the leading tackler and interceptor, returns to steady the defensive backfield. He was an honorable mention All-America last year.

Army

Coach Jim Young has worked wonders with the wishbone at Army since '84, and if he can continue where the Cadets left off last year — three straight victories — the nation's service academy might see action in another bowl game in the postseason.

Young's biggest problem is replacing eight starters on defense, though last year's squad did let up points by the bucketful all too often. The '87 squad is quicker than last year's, but far more inexperienced. The defensive line is new. Ends Greg Gadson and Charles Schretzman will try to fill the gaps and keep opposing runners since and passers honest. DT Mike Lover — the only holdover — missed spring practice and must recover from knee surgery.

LB Ray Griffiths led Army in tackles in '86 and is the heart of the defense.

FS Chance Conner is the only secondary man back, but he's a good one. Conner led the Cadets with four thefts last season and ranked 14th nationally in punt returns with a 11.2

average. A battle is on for the other three spots.

But on the other side of the ball, Army will score a ton of points, too. The Cadets' running game will be one of the best in the nation. Senior Tory Crawford mans the QB position. He topped Division I-A quarterbacks in rushing a year ago with 1,078 yards, the third highest season total in Army history. Crawford also scored 15 TD's, the most since Doc Blanchard four decades ago.

Andy Peterson gained 623 yards at fullback in '85 and will complement Crawford well. Halfback is supposed to be a problem area, though Clarence Jones and Benny Wright combined for more than 1,200 yards last year. Look for Army to move the ball almost at will.

When the Cadets do throw the ball — which won't be very often — there'll be new players catching it. There are no receivers back who quarterbacks even attempted to throw a pass to last year. Bet on Army to run most of the time. TE Mark Charette caught 12 passes, but is mostly a blocker in the wishbone.

Army's schedule isn't the backbreaker it usually is. Most of the tough games — Holy Cross and Rutgers — are at home.

Tulsa

"We're going to return to the glory days of Tulsa football and we're going to pass the ball."

So said George Henshaw when he was named head coach at Tulsa last December. Henshaw enters his first head coaching position with an impressive resume that includes the

last four years as the offensive coordinator at Alabama.

When Henshaw talks of throwing the ball and returning to the past — when Tulsa football in the '60's was synonymous with great passing teams — Golden Hurricane fans instantly conjure up memories of Jerry Rhome, Howard Twilley and Co.

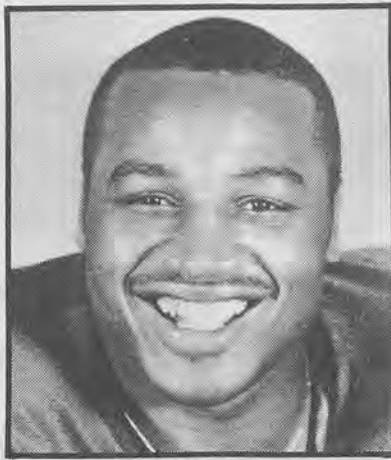
In '87, Tulsa has to replace Steve Gage, it's all-time total-offense leader. Sophomore Marcus McVay saw valuable time in reserve and will be pressured by four other players for the starting role.

Whoever gets the nod will be hoping the suspension of WR Ronnie Kelly (25 for 535 yards and five TD's in '86) is lifted. Otherwise, look to Erick Harrison to be the top receiver. Last year he caught 15 passes for 207 yards. Dan Bitson and Walter Dunagin are vying at split end.

Unlike a year ago when the Hurricane offensive backfield was hit hard by graduation, Tulsa returns its entire cast in '87, including Derrick Ellison, who rushed for 1,064 yards and a 6.3 average in '86. His backup, Kenneth Lee, added another 582 yards.

The defensive line is perhaps the strength of the Golden Hurricane, if injuries stay away. NG John Chargois, DT Dennis Byrd and DE Scott Estes have been injured but figure to be ready by September.

The LB corps is led by David Haynes, Lee Durham and Rob Kirk,



Pirate FB Anthony Simpson

while the secondary is still looking for candidates to step forward to take over.

Other than an early three-game stint against Florida, Arkansas and Oklahoma, Tulsa's schedule is mild.

East Carolina

Fifteen starters, including nine on defense return for East Carolina in 1987 as the Pirates look to turn their fortunes around for coach Art Baker.

Heading the list among the returning starters for Baker, now in his third year at ECU, are hard-hitting LB's Bubba Waters and Vinson Smith and CB Ellis Dillahunt, while bruising

FB Anthony Simpson returns as the Pirate offensive workhorse.

The Pirates have been outmanned in recent seasons while playing one of the strongest schedules in the country. East Carolina's schedule doesn't get much easier in '87, with the likes of Florida State, Illinois, West Virginia and Miami on the slate, but Baker has worked in a couple of likely "W's" against Georgia Southern and Cincinnati, the only two teams East Carolina beat last year.

"We're going into 1987 with a much better football team," said Baker. "We've not had the players to line up against the caliber of opponents that we have faced in the last couple of seasons."

Baker feels a combination of competition and experience will give the team senior-based leadership.

The Pirates were led last year at quarterback by two freshmen, Charlie Libretto and Travis Hunter, who not only were playing in their first collegiate seasons but were faced with a transition to Baker's Run-and-Shoot offense.

ECU loses five starters off its offense, the entire line from tackle to tackle, but three returnees have some experience. WR Walter Wilson, a sophomore, will be the Pirates' big-play man in '87; last year he caught 11 passes for 220 yards and two touchdowns. He'll be joined by seniors Andre Fields, Jackie Armstrong and

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Tony Smith.

The Pirate backfield should be the most improved on the squad with a talented corp of returnees. Simpson will again be the star. In '86 he led the team with 753 yards and five scores on 178 carries. TB's Reggie McKinley, Willie Lewis, Jarrod Moody and transfer Carl Barkers will split the action.

Waters and Smith combined for 209 tackles from their LB positions in '86, while the defensive line returns three starters in Walter Bryant, Willie Powell and Medrick Rainbow. Improvement in the secondary is a must, as the Pirates were hurting there in '86. Dillahunt is a star; the rest are still looking for the light.

Temple

In four years, Bruce Arians has built a strong football program at Temple, one that has the Owls competitive against a strong schedule.

But Arians faces a formidable foe in 1987 in keeping the program strong while trying to replace All-America Paul Palmer, Temple's all-time leading rusher who gained 1,866 yards and scored 15 touchdowns last year.

The emphasis this year will be on defense and on the line. The Owls return eight starters on both lines of scrimmage, so blocking should be a strength, as well. The glaring weakness is at the so-called glamor positions.

Todd McNair, the second-leading rusher with 253 yards in '86, and Ventres Stevenson will replace Palmer. Shelley Poole, The Human Excavator, is gone at fullback, and will be replaced by Craig Sawyer or Sheldon Morris, both of whom saw limited action last year.

Three-year starter Lee Saltz is gone at quarterback and the field is wide open. Senior James Thompson threw only seven passes last year.

The strongest position is tight end, where Mike Hinnant was honorable mention All-America last year when he caught 17 passes for 202 yards. He is a dominating blocker. Keith Gloster, a second-team All-East receiver who caught seven touchdown passes in '86, returns, too.

The offensive line is complete: Kevin Jones (second-team selection All-East in '86) and Carl Holmes at tackle, Pete Bernard and either Chris Possenti or Keith Dembo at guard, and John Incollingo at center.

Three seniors anchor Temple's defensive line — DT's Rodney Walker and Mike Swanson and DE Kirk Drukenbrod. The linebacking corp is solid with Chris Eaddy, Joe Possenti, Arturo Weldon and Toren Schonyers. The secondary was hit hardest by graduation. S Eddie Parker, the second-leading tackler in '86, is the only starter back. He was a member of the sophomore All-America team two years ago.



Cincinnati's Heisman hopeful — QB Danny McCain

Rutgers

The Scarlet Knights return 15 starters from last year's 5-6 team.

Junior Scott Erney replaced Joe Gagliardi at quarterback last year and figures to improve, especially with 12 receivers back. Senior TE's Bruce Campbell and Greg Alvord combined for 44 receptions, wideouts Brian Cobb and Eric Young were 1-2 in yardage with 368 and 331, respectively. Cobb is also a daring kick returner.

All eight of last year's runners return. Matt Prescott was the ringleader with 606 yards and six touchdowns. Curtis Stephens gained 419 at fullback. The rest provide terrific depth and see plenty of action, as coach Dick Anderson likes to keep his running backs rested.

The defensive line is being revamped due to the loss of several starters, though Anderson sees capable replacements in NT Doug Kokoskie and DT's George Banks and Scott Miller. Alec Hoke and Tom Duffy are fine defensive ends. Replacing All-America Tyrone Stowe at linebacker is a problem, too. Pat Udovich is the only returnee with experience.

FS Derek Baker led the secondary last year with 47 tackles and keys that area. SS Darrin Czelcz and CB Sean Washington are ball hawks.

Cincinnati

Danny McCain, one of the nation's top returning quarterbacks, and a veteran cast of receivers, yield a bright outlook at Cincinnati.

McCain, whom the school calls a bonafide Heisman Trophy candidate, ranks second in efficiency, first in completion percentage and fifth in yardage among the top returning quarterbacks. He should command an explosive attack.

He's paired with the ideal coach. Fourth-year mentor Dave Currey has helped develop one Heisman quarter-

back, three national passing champs, one total offense leader and seven quarterbacks who have gone on to the pros.

While the Bearcats have to fill some key vacancies, Currey anticipates, after the success he has had in recruiting and stabilizing the program, it will be just a matter of reloading, and not rebuilding.

Offensively, the Bearcats' biggest loss was their smallest player, Reggie Taylor, a 5-7, 170-pound dynamo who rushed for 1,367 yards and scored 11 TD's last year. Al McKinney, Taylor's caddy for the past two seasons, will get the long-awaited chance to test his skills. He rushed for 313 yards and three scores in '86.

The loss of Taylor will place more pressure on the McCain-led passing attack. Joe Hice, who has led the team in receiving the past two seasons with his steady play, heads the receiving corps, and Roosevelt Mukes will try to replace the big-play shoes of the departed Jason Stargel.

Currey's biggest problem offensively should be filling three vacancies on the offensive line, which didn't have much depth last season.

The Bearcat defense was also hit hard by graduation, especially All-America LB Alex Gordon.

S's John Lewis and Richard Rhodes loom as mainstays on Cincinnati's new Multiple 40 defense, while Chris Asbeck, the only lineman guaranteed to start on the defensive front, is developing into one of the school's finest ever.

Cincinnati finished 6-5 last year and, other than contests with Miami (Fla.) and Penn State, there's no reason the Bearcats can't repeat that mark in '87.

Colgate

After suffering through its first losing season in eight years, this year's edition of the Colgate Red

Raiders has a big job ahead getting back on the right track.

Colgate returns 14 starters from last year's 4-7 team, but numerous problems need to be answered.

"First of all, we need to regain the winning momentum," said coach Fred Dunlap.

The major emphasis in '87 is finding a consistent placekicker and rebuilding an offensive line that returns only one starter. If they do, Dunlap feels the Red Raiders have the makings of an explosive team, one that will take time to jell . . . but, once the inexperienced line takes hold, look out.

An experienced defense will be counted on to play solid football early in the season until the offense fully develops. A balanced attack will be needed, however, before Colgate departs on a grueling midseason schedule that includes back-to-back road games with Army and Syracuse.

The Red Raider superstar is senior All-America Kenny Gamble, who led major colleges in rushing with 1,816 yards last year and broke or tied five NCAA records. Colgate was ninth in the country in rushing with 253.3 yards per game.

Junior Damon Phelan compiled impressive stats last year at quarterback, throwing for 1,474 yards and running for 298 more. He'll pass to wideouts Buddy Brown (38 receptions for 516 yards and seven TD's) and Glen Chaffee and several good tight ends.

The stop troops feature All-Colonial League DT Tony Khalife leading a unit that allowed only 104.6 yards per game rushing and has three starters returning. Colgate's deepest defensive area is at linebacker, where the top seven players return, including Greg Manusky, the Red Raider leading tackler in '86 with 162 stops. The key to Colgate's success this year will be the secondary, which loses three starters.

Navy

Rarely do college teams find themselves in the position of having to replace nearly every starter from one season to the next.

It's not a pleasant situation, but it's one that faces new Navy coach Elliot Uzelac as he looks to the 1987 season.

Uzelac, who served as a line coach at Michigan last year and prior to that spent seven seasons as head coach at Western Michigan, is searching for a quarterback to run his newly implemented wishbone offense and looking to restructure a defensive unit that is minus all 11 late-season starters from '86.

Last year's top three quarterbacks have graduated, including Bill Byrne, who started most of the last three seasons. At least six prospects are being tried and it's anyone's guess as to who will win, with the starter not to be decided until September.

Uzelac's planning at running back begins with senior Chuck Smith, who, despite injuries that caused him to miss two full games and parts of three others, rushed for 933 yards on 190 carries (4.9 average) and scored 10 touchdowns last year. It was the seventh-best single season ever by a Navy player and ranked 15th in the country. He also had 26 receptions for 280 yards and ranked 10th in the nation in all-purpose yardage.

The speedster will be joined by Don Holl, who netted 88 in the Army-Navy game of his season-total of 229 yards. There is plenty of depth at running back, in contrast to other positions.

There is excellent speed with three lettermen at wide receiver. Troy Saunders, a two-year starter, caught 29 balls for 446 yards and four TD's last fall. Don Hughes and Clay Stackhouse



Navy power back Chuck Smith

will see plenty of action. Kevin Voss and Chris Mosher have experience at tight end.

OG's Brian McGoldrick and Joe Brennan and OT Bruce Bennett anchor an offensive line with both size and experience.

There are only eight lettermen on defense, two of whom were starters a year ago — DB's Curtis Irby and Mike Marchildon. To give you an example of how inexperienced the "experienced" players are, Irby had only 31 tackles last year while Marchildon had just 17.

Uzelac can rely on two returnees at tackle in Mike Musser (a starter two years ago who was injured last year) and Troy Holland. LB Mark Pimp, who had 31 stops in limited action in '86, will start at one linebacker spot.

Navy started off well last year, winning three of its first four games before losing the last seven. This year's schedule is a little more mild, except the Midshipmen can expect to be a little more mild, too, until some

of the players gather some game experience.

Memphis State

What a difference a year makes!

That's how the Memphis State Tigers feel as they head into coach Charlie Bailey's second year as head coach and try to rebound from a horrendous 1-10 season in 1986.

Bailey inherited a team that had lost virtually everyone on offense and most of the defensive starters. He won't have those excuses this time around. Seventeen starters are back from last year's squad and he doesn't look at '87 as a rebuilding year since he has some "bricks" for use in his reconstruction now.

Offensively, the Tigers return the entire offensive line, a quintet that gained valuable experience last year when it was forced to play almost every down because of injuries to other players. OT Tim Borcky, OG Scott Dill and C Ted Gatewood help form one of the strongest offensive line's in college football.

Tim Jones, who became Memphis State's starting quarterback after five games last year, returns for his sophomore season. Look for him to improve on his numbers of 39-of-97 passes for 361 yards and three touchdowns. Andy Whitwell, who also saw extensive action, will give Jones plenty of competition.

The receiver slots are up for grabs, and a contingent of eight lettermen are in the running at running back. Wayne Pryor and James White, the Tigers' No. 1 and No. 3 rushers last season, are in that group to take some of the pressure of the quarterbacks.

Defensively, Bailey and his staff must reconstruct a front line and LB corps that is again depleted due to graduation. If there is one defensive position that appears set for the fall, it is that of the secondary. All four starters return, including SS Ron Palmer, who had 80 tackles last year, third most on the team. Jerry Craine, Reggie DuBose and Mike Nettles fill out a strong secondary.

The schedule is attractive but tough, including dates with Alabama and Florida State.

Memphis State officials are so confident of Bailey's ability that they extended his contract 10 games into last season, when the Tigers seemed to improve during the stretch. However, if the Tigers go 1-10 again, Bailey will start to feel the heat.

Louisville

The QB position has always seemed to be the focal point of Howard Schnellenberger's football teams, whether it be Jim Kelly or Bernie Kosar at Miami (Fla.) or Jay Gruden and the new corps of quarterbacks at Louisville.

Gruden, who suffered a knee injury

late last year, is the key to the Cardinal season. Last year, he completed 73-of-154 passes for 1,099 yards and eight touchdowns. If he doesn't recover in time to reclaim his position, Schnellenberger will have to look for help from what has to be one of the nation's top collections of young drop-back quarterbacks — Eric Lawson, Brian Dowling, Joey Crenshaw and Erik Watts.

Aside from the QB situation, Louisville's offensive strength seems to be its depth at running back. Leading rusher Deon Booker (516 yards and five touchdowns on 112 carries) returns along with two-year letterman Craig Swabek and top kick returner Keith Stephens, redshirt freshmen Pete Bynn, Bobby Hall and David Moyler, transfer Tyrone Thomas and some talented incoming freshmen.

Letterman George Williams (five receptions for 39 yards) and Chad Fortune return at tight end, while two-year letterman Calvin Dixson (6 for 92) and Joey Hamilton (13 for 184) return at wide receiver. Incoming freshman Anthony Cummings, a speedster, could help add some long-distance spark to the lineup.

Defensively, the Cardinals look to be strong and experienced up front but a bit young in the secondary.

The interior front three will be all-star candidate Chris Thieneman at one tackle, Kevin Harvey at the other end and Andrew Higgs in the middle of the 5-2 alignment. And there seems to be quality depth behind them, with red-shirt freshman Colburn Clark, Chris Glasper and Dan Gang ready to see some playing time.

Two-time leading tackler Matt Battaglia has graduated from the LB corps, but sophomore starter Chris Sellers returns along with senior Ron Madrick, soph Neil Singleton and red-shirt freshmen Ed Reynolds and Mark Sander.

The secondary returns starters at both corners and at both safety spots, but three of them are still only sophomores.

If Louisville is to jump into the big time in college football, it had better do so soon. There's no telling how much longer Schnellenberger will stay at his alma mater. Chances are, he won't see the end of his five-year contract.

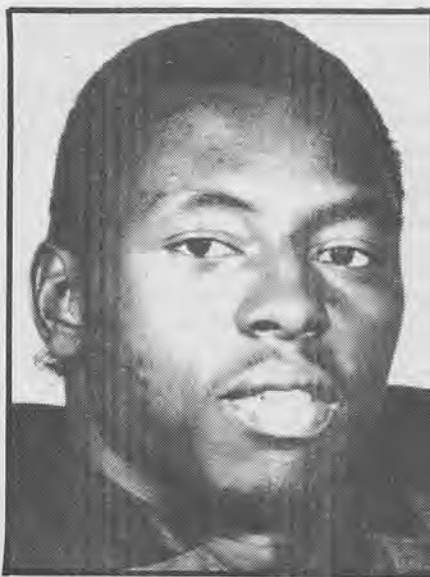
Northern Illinois

Listen closely to Northern Illinois coach Jerry Pettibone. The phrase "get better" sneaks into his conversation often.

"The big advantage for us is that for the first time in three years, we're not going with a new scheme on either offense or defense," said Pettibone. "We're just going to get better."

In all honesty, the Huskies can't get much worse.

Northern Illinois finished its first season as a major independent last



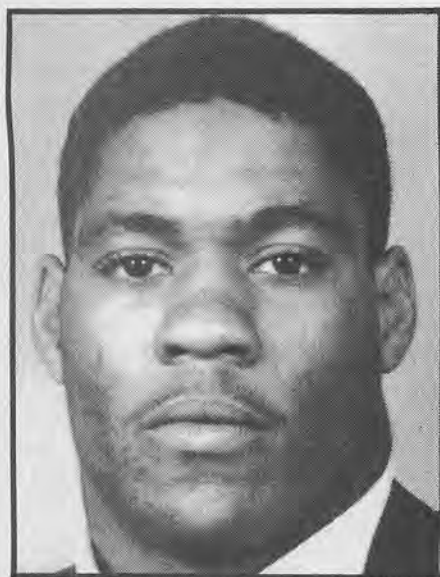
Memphis State SS Ron Palmer

year with a 2-9 record, a schedule ranked as the 14th toughest in the country. The victories came late in the season against Bowling Green and Eastern Michigan. The early part of the schedule was filled with losses like 57-3 to Iowa, 34-0 to Miami (Fla.) and 47-14 to West Virginia.

Many Husky fans felt the school made a poor decision in leaving the Mid-American Conference to go independent.

Pettibone runs a wishbone offense that proved quite respectable late in the season, piling up 361 yards per game over the last five games. The problem was a defense that resembled a sieve — the Huskies allowed 308 points and 344 yards a game.

Northern is led by All-America candidate Ted Karamanos, a 6-2, 260-pound guard who is as good as Todd Peat, NIU's third-team All-America guard who just graduated.



Louisville RB Deon Booker

Nine starters are back on offense in addition to Karamanos. The catalyst for the wishbone is QB Marshall Taylor, a 5-8 junior who has accumulated 3,019 yards total offense and 20 touchdowns the past two years as a starter.

Featured in the backfield are FB Antonio Davis, who led NIU with 648 yards rushing and Rodney "Little Big Man" Taylor, who produced 1,272 all-purpose yards.

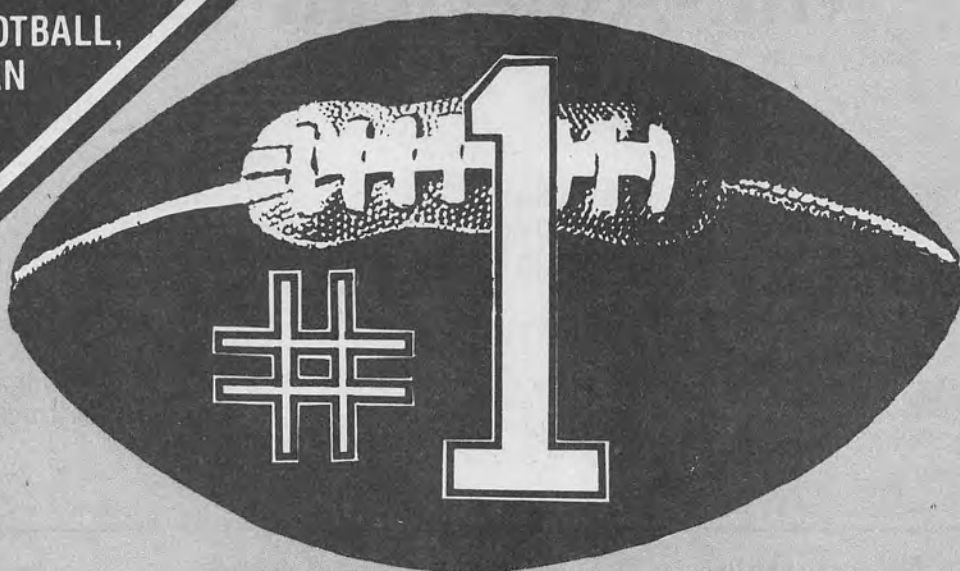
On defense, Pettibone will keep the Four-Four alignment the Huskies evolved into last year. ILB Tony Savegnago led the squad with 99 tackles and heads a cast of five returning starters. Several players will be counted on to step into the lineup and play better than those they are replacing.

Chances are Northern Illinois can escape with a couple more wins this year, with the likes of Lamar, Southwest Missouri, Nevada-Las Vegas and Eastern Michigan on the schedule. ■



Northern Illinois star OG Ted Karamanos holds his ground

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Mid-American Conference

Predicted Finish

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Miami | 6. Kent State |
| 2. Central Michigan | 7. Ball State |
| 3. Eastern Michigan | 8. Western Michigan |
| 4. Bowling Green | 9. Ohio |
| 5. Toledo | |

1986 Records

	Conf.	Overall
Miami	6-2-0	8-4-0
Toledo	5-3-0	7-4-0
Bowling Green	5-3-0	5-6-0
Kent State	5-3-0	5-6-0
Eastern Michigan	4-4-0	6-5-0
Ball State	4-4-0	6-5-0
Central Michigan	4-4-0	5-5-0
Western Michigan	3-5-0	3-8-0
Ohio	0-8-0	1-10-0

Miami (Ohio)

After putting together back-to-back winning seasons, head coach Tim Rose has 12 starters and 47 lettermen back from last year's team which captured the MAC crown, upset LSU 21-12 in Baton Rouge and went to the California Bowl, losing 37-7 to San Jose State.

The Redskins will be led by senior PK Gary Gussman, their all-time leading scorer with 230 points. The MAC record holder with 80 consecutive PAT's, Gussman's career numbers read: 86-of-87 extra points and 48-of-69 field goals (70 percent).

Also returning, among five offensive starters, is WR Andy Schillinger, who led the nation with 12 touchdown receptions and had 46 catches for 955 yards last year. Senior Mike Bates and redshirt freshman Mark Kuzma remained deadlocked throughout spring practice in their battle for the starting QB job.

The key offensive loss is TB George Swann, the MAC's dominant player the past three years, when he rushed for over 3,900 yards. Nobody on the Redskin roster can match Swann's combination of size (5-10 1/2, 205) speed (4.4) and power, although redshirt freshman TB Bernie Caldwell rushed for 100 yards, including a 65-yard TD in the Redskins' spring game.

The defense returns seven starters, including three of the top four tacklers from '86, ILB's Pete Mather and Jeff Anderson and DB Todd Snyder. Sheldon White also returns to the secondary after intercepting six passes a year ago. DT Andy Marlatt, who had 13 tackles for minus-66 yards last season, anchors the line.

Rose's Redskins will have a tough time duplicating last season's accomplishments. They play only four games at home and are on the road for non-conference clashes with Syracuse, Cincinnati and the other Miami — of Florida.

Central Michigan

For the first time since 1972, the Chippewas failed to post a winning record last season. Ten-year veteran head coach Herb Deromedi's squad finished 5-5, but 15 starters are back, looking for a return to the winning ways that have characterized Deromedi's reign in Mt. Pleasant. CMU teams have compiled a 69-25-3 mark during his tenure.

Last year's quarterback, Marcelle Caruthers, missed a week of spring practice with a pulled hamstring and was replaced as the starter by redshirt sophomore Randy Levels. The key on offense, however, is TB Rodney Stevenson, whose 1,104 rushing yards and 14 TD's last season earned him All-MAC recognition. The Chippewas led the MAC in total offense last year, averaging 384 yards per game, 280 on the ground. But the passing offense was eighth, averaging just 104 yards per contest.

FB's Phil Hendrix and Todd Nowak combined for over 600 yards last year, but two integral members of the offensive line — All-MAC OT Brian Williams and OG Rick Poljan — have departed. Still, three starters are back in the front wall, including seniors OT Duncan Hogg and OG Mike Dillon and junior C Ralph Newland.

"We have basically the same people returning on defense from last season, on a defense that didn't distinguish itself," Deromedi said. "But we have some good seniors, and I think we can have a good defense."

Eastern Michigan

The Hurons have shown steady improvement in each of head coach Jim Harkema's previous four seasons, and last year's 6-5 overall mark was the first winning season at Eastern Michigan since 1977. Harkema's squad tied for fifth in the MAC at 4-4.

The Hurons may even contend for the league title in '87, as 41 lettermen

return, including 14 starters, seven on each side of the ball.

The entire offensive backfield of '86 returns, including first-team All-MAC TB Gary Patton. The 5-9, 185-pound senior rushed for 1,058 yards and six TD's and caught 37 passes for 371 yards and four more scores last season. He was fifth last year in Division I-A all-purpose rushing with 164.8 yards per game.

Senior QB Ron Adams was second-team All-MAC in '86, hitting 60 percent of his passes for 1,995 yards and 13 TD's, while allowing only six interceptions, and junior FB Steve Palmateer was the team's third-leading rusher and receiver last year.

WR Don Vesling caught 35 of those passes for 653 yards and four TD's, but he may not be back if he decides to try pro baseball. His absence would leave Harkema with the unpleasant chore of replacing a starting split end, flanker and tight end.

OT Evan Hicks (6-2, 282), an honorable mention All-MAC pick, leads a group of three returning starters on the offensive line that includes OG Brian Clouse (6-3, 250) and OT Matt Klassa (6-5, 250). First-team all-conference C Brett Petersmark must be replaced.

DE Eric Miller, who led the Hurons with 13 tackles for loss in '86, leads the defensive returnees. Both starting tacklers also return along with a pair of linebackers and two members of the secondary.

Bowling Green

Last season, Moe Ankey began his first year at Bowling Green with a pair of unproven sophomores battling for the QB job. Eric Smith won out over Jeff Sandru, but, when Smith was injured, freshman Rich Dackin took over and started the final seven games, winning four. Dackin enters '87 as No. 1, but Smith and Sandru are still very much in the picture.

Starting TB Jeff Davis (782 yards)

and FB Mike Otten both return, although junior Mike McGee, who averaged 4.8 yards per carry in limited duty in '86, may challenge Davis. The Falcons are looking for a noticeable improvement in the running game, which was outgained by a more than 2-1 last year.

Bowling Green's wide receivers were considered the best in the MAC last year, and all of them are back. In fact, five of the Falcons' top six pass catchers return. Junior Ken Rankin (23 catches, 273 yards) and sophomore Ronald Heard (25 catches, 359 yards) are the starters, but in the Falcons' offensive scheme, sophomore Reggie Thornton should see plenty of action, as he did last year, with 20 catches for 299 yards.

Eight defensive starters return from a squad that was third best in the nation against the pass, allowing only 114 yards per game, but which allowed 208 rushing yards per game.

The secondary returns three of four starters, including FS Kyle Kramer, an All-MAC pick who led the team with five interceptions.

Toledo

The Rockets have a lot of offensive firepower to replace, even though they lost only two starters. TB Kelvin Farmer, who rushed 299 times for 1,532 yards, accounted for 75 percent of Toledo's ground yardage, and QB A.J. Sager supplied senior leadership and 1,107 passing yards.

There will also be some big holes to fill on defense. Gone is three-year starting LB Tim Inglis, the best all-around athlete on last year's 7-4 team that finished in a three-way tie for second in the MAC with a 5-3 mark. The secondary is a possible disaster area. Head coach Dan Simrell begins his sixth season at Toledo having to replace five defensive backs (Bryant Jones, Dexter Clark, Marc Patton, Rodney Tatum and third-team Associated Press All-America Harold McGuire) who played together as a unit for four years. None of their replacements has started as much as one game.

The QB spot is wide open, with senior Bill Bergan, sophomore Steve Keene and redshirt freshman Mark Melfi battling California junior college transfer Steve Haddad for the starting job. Junior TB David Rohrs (6-2, 186) appears the heir apparent to Farmer, although he averaged just 2.9 yards on 55 carries last season.

But if the Rockets can fill those spots adequately, the supporting cast on offense is promising. Six interior linemen with starting experience are back, as is WR Eric Hutchinson who led the Rockets with 33 catches and 504 yards in '86. Junior PK Bruce Nichols has connected on his last 35 PAT's and hit 11-of-15 FG attempts last year.

Five starting down linemen return, led by seniors Paul Sandor, a 6-4, 229-



Toledo TB David Rohrs

pound tackle, and Keith Dunbar, a 6-2, 221-pound end, who both had 10 tackles for loss last season.

The heart of the defense is 6-2, 211-pound senior LB Steve Huffman. Last year, Huffman led the Rockets with 155 tackles and was a first-team All-MAC selection and honorable mention Associated Press All-America. In '87, he will also be a leading candidate for Academic All-America recognition, sporting a 3.4 grade-point average (on a 4.0 scale) in pre-med.

Kent State

A pair of rookies led Kent State to a second-place tie in the MAC last year, its highest conference finish since 1976, and a 5-6 overall record.

QB Patrick Young broke the school's freshman rushing record with 779 yards, passed for 756 more and was named the MAC's Freshman of the Year. First-year head coach Glen Mason, the former offensive coordinator at Ohio State, earned MAC Coach of the Year honors, as his Golden Flashes won three league games on their final possession, including one against MAC champ Miami.

The Flashes' triple-option offense, which was No. 2 in the league with an average of 188.3 rushing yards per game, loses just one starter. When Young doesn't keep the ball, which he

did 190 times in 1986, he'll pitch to junior TB Eric Wilkerson, who averaged 5.9 yards per carry a year ago. Neither appears built to be a workhorse, though. Young is 5-8 and 170 pounds, while Wilkerson is 5-9, 181.

Leading receiver Eric Dye (28 catches for 425 yards) returns, but he was the team's only player with more than 11 receptions last year. The Flashes threw an average of only 18 times a game in '86 for barely more than 100 yards per contest. They were outgained by more than 2-to-1 in the air and Young completed just 44 percent of his passes.

Eight starters are back on defense, led by senior OLB Tony Stephens, a second-team All-Conference selection who was fourth on the team with 108 tackles. Also returning is senior ILB Tim Viscuso who led the team with 144 tackles.

Ball State

The Cardinals were cruising along on a five-game win streak, in the thick of the 1986 MAC title chase, when QB Wade Kosakowski went down with a dislocated thumb with three games to play. Ball State lost all three games and finished in a tie for fifth with a 4-4 league mark and a 6-5 overall record.

Kosakowski, a 6-2, 200-pound junior, still received honorable mention All-MAC recognition and completed 65 percent of his passes for 1,459 yards. He showed no ill after-effects during spring practice from the surgery and should be 100 percent in his third year as a starter.

Last year's leading receiver, Ricky George, is gone, but first-team All-Conference TE Ron Duncan (31 catches, 294 yards) is back. The 6-4, 245-pound senior is even more impressive in the classroom, where he has received just one grade lower than an A in his collegiate career — a B in calculus. WR Deon Chester (38 catches, 601 yards) gives Kosakowski another inviting target.

Craig Kantner, a 6-3, 270-pound guard was second-team All-MAC Last year after making first team as a center in '85. He is joined on the offensive line by three other returning starters.

Eight starters return from the MAC's top-ranked defense, led by first-team All-Conference pick DT Troy Schultz. The Cardinals led the league in total defense (284.9 yards per game) and rushing defense (122.1 yards per game), where they also ranked 18th nationally. Sophomore LB Greg Garnica (6-0, 215) was second-team All-MAC after leading the league and setting a school record with 185 tackles — an average of 16.8 per game.

The Cardinals need a replacement for PK John Dietrich, who was ranked by many scouting services as the top senior kicker in the country. He holds MAC records for field goals (63) and longest field goal (62 yards).

Western Michigan

One of the few bright spots in the Broncos' 3-8 season (3-5 in the MAC) was the play of MAC Defensive Player of the Year Mark Garalczyk. But the 6-5, 265-pound tackle is gone, as is TE Kelly Spielmaker, the leading receiver in school history, leaving first-year head coach Al Molde to start at the bottom.

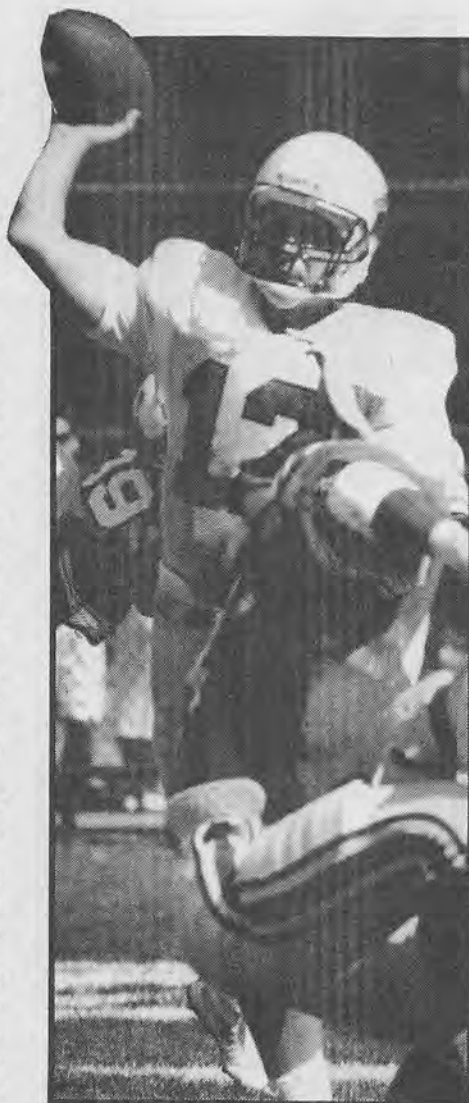
Molde does have 42 lettermen, including 15 starters back, and he brings six of his assistants from Eastern Illinois, where they helped that school to a 32-15 record over the past four years, including an 11-2 mark and No. 3 ranking in NCAA Division II last fall.

Despite their eighth-place finish in the MAC, the Broncos did show an ability to rise to the occasion, whipping first-place Miami 27-17 and thrashing second-place Kent State 27-7 at home. The Broncos actually enter the season with a two-game win streak, including the victory over Kent, which was achieved before an intimate gathering of 2,561 friends and well-wishers.

One of Molde's priorities is to generate more offense, and he intends to do it through the air.

"Quarterback play will be important to this offensive production, since we'll probably throw the ball an average of 40 times a game," Molde said.

Last year's first- and second-string quarterbacks are gone, but Molde has imported 6-5, 215-pound Dave Kruse, who transferred from Wichita State, after the Shockers dropped football. Kruse, who played in six games for Wichita State last season and has immediate eligibility, established himself as No. 1 in spring practice.



BSU QB Wade Kosakowski

Ohio

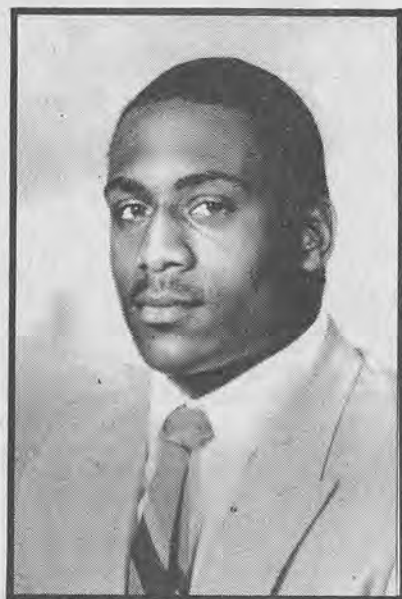
The Ohio University Bobcats have won just three times in Cleve Bryant's two years as head coach and, if that record is to improve, a running game must be found to complement the passing of Bruce Porter. Porter set school records last year with 13 TD's, 388 attempts and 216 completions and also passed for 2,281 yards. But the running game generated less than 66 yards per game and averaged less than two yards per attempt, and the Bobcats lost their first 10 games, before a season-ending victory over Northern Illinois.

"We plan to establish the running game and take some pressure off the quarterback," Bryant said, who was a star running back at Ohio two decades ago.

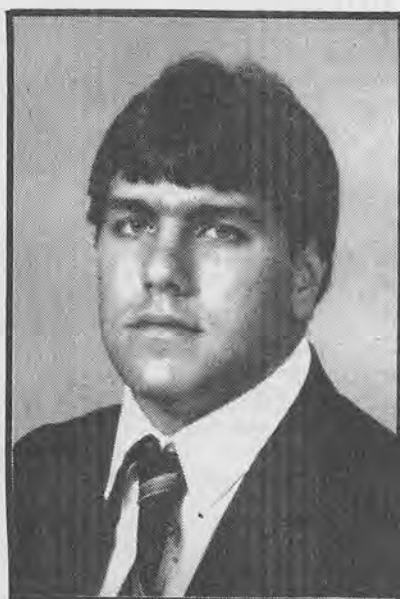
The defense would also benefit from an offense that could exercise a little ball control. Last year's unit allowed 30 points per game, but the two leading tacklers from '86, LB Doug Mangen and DB Tom Gerhart, are both back and figure to supply the leadership this go-around.

But the Bobcats will once again probably go only as far as Porter and the air game can take them. Three of last year's top four pass catchers are back, headed by WR Bobby Cameron (50 catches, 621 yards, four TD's). WR Cyle Feldman, like Cameron, had a 12-catch game in '86, and he grabbed 24 passes in seven games. Jim Geiser added 28 catches for 311 yards and three scores, while TE Marty Rinehart added several clutch receptions.

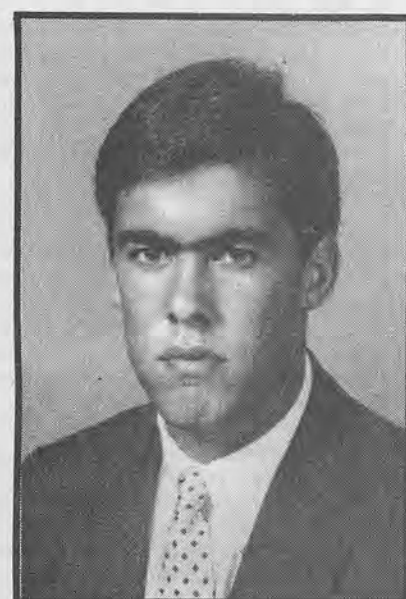
Last year's two leading rushers, Jesse Owens and Chris Mobley return, but they averaged just 3.5 yards and 2.8 yards per carry, respectively. ■



Ohio RB Jesse Owens



Ohio LB Doug Mangen



Ohio QB Bruce Porter

Pacific-10 Conference

Predicted Finish

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Southern Cal | 6. Arizona |
| 2. UCLA | 7. Washington State |
| 3. Arizona State | 8. Oregon |
| 4. Washington | 9. Oregon State |
| 5. Stanford | 10. California |

1986 Records

	Conf.	Overall
Arizona State	5-1-1	10-1-1
Arizona	5-3-0	9-3-0
Washington	5-2-1	8-3-1
UCLA	5-2-1	8-3-1
Southern Cal	5-3-0	8-4-0
Stanford	5-3-0	8-4-0
Oregon	3-5-0	5-6-0
Washington State	2-6-1	3-7-1
California	2-7-0	2-9-0
Oregon State	1-6-0	3-8-0

Southern Cal

Ted Tollner's four-year record of 26-20-1 wasn't nearly up to Trojan standards and he was replaced at the end of the '86 season by Arizona's Larry Smith, who was 31-13-2 in his last four years with the Wildcats.

Smith has 13 starters back from Tollner's last team which finished 7-5 after losing its last three games, including a 16-7 defeat by Auburn in the Florida Citrus Bowl. The Trojans tied for fourth in the Pac-10 with a 5-3 record.

"There's no question we have quality and experience to work with," Smith said. "I think we'll be a good team. On paper, we look like we have good experience returning, particularly at linebacker, quarterback, wide receiver, running back and defensive line."

The leading returnee is senior OLB Marcus Cotton, a second-team All-American last year and one of this year's leading contenders for the Butkus and Lombardi Awards. Cotton has 39 career tackles for loss, which have accounted for minus-258 yards. Last year, he led the PAC-10 with 17 for 102 yards in losses. As a sophomore, he accounted for 106 yards in losses with 15 hits behind the line of scrimmage. The 6-4, 220-pounder runs a 4.6-second 40 yards, is quick, mean, strong and a great leaper who has played basketball at USC.

The "Cotton Club" has five other returnees, including the team's top two tacklers last year — Cotton was third — ILB's Rex Moore and two-year starter Keith Davis, who combined for 361 stops, 206 by Moore. Moore, 6-1, 225, had 20 or more tackles in five games and was in double figures in every contest. Davis has been a Pac-10 All-Academic member for two years and, at 6-1 and 235 pounds, he is one of the strongest Trojans, bench-pressing 450 pounds. He also recovered a PAC-10-leading four fumbles. Senior Bill Stokes may be the other starter outside. He was in on 35 tackles as a



Southern Cal LB Marcus Cotton

reserve in '86.

A pair of sophomores; 6-5, 250-pound DT Tim Ryan; and 6-4, 235-pound NT Dan Owens are back on the line after starting as freshmen, as is senior CB Greg Coauette, the only returning starter in the secondary. But

Coauette will be joined by sophomore S Cleveland Colter who was named the top freshman safety in the country by The Sporting News.

Seven starters return on offense, headed by 6-5, 270-pound OT Dave Cadigan, who hopes to become



USC QB Rodney Peete

Southern Cal's 23rd first-team All-American offensive lineman in the past 23 years. Fifteen USC offensive linemen have been NFL first-round draft choices.

Operating behind the protection of Cadigan and fellow returning starters, sophomore OG Brent Parkinson (6-6, 250) and senior C John Katnik (6-1, 250) will be QB Rodney Peete and WR Ken Henry.

Peete became only the third Trojan ever to throw for more than 2,000 yards in a season last year, but the junior was intercepted 15 times while tossing just three TD passes. Kevin McLean, a 6-3, 185-pound senior, is a capable backup.

Henry was Peete's No. 1 target last year, accounting for 807 yards on 43 receptions and scoring seven TD's. Last year's No. 2 receiver, FL Randy Tanner (29 catches, 408 yards), is also back. At tight end, 6-3, 230-pound Paul Green has the inside track after playing extensively at H-back last year, blocking well and catching 12 passes for 158 yards.

Peete will also be able to hand off to the top two running backs from '86 — 6-1, 205-pound senior TB Ryan Knight (536 yards) and 6-2, 220-pound junior TB Aaron Emanuel (495 yards). Emanuel won the starting job in the fifth game but was sidelined for the final four games by a sprained big toe. As a reserve in 1985, he averaged 4.9 yards on 97 carries, the highest

rushing average by a Trojan runner with at least 95 carries since Marcus Allen in his 1981 Heisman Trophy winning year. Leroy Holt gained 158 yards in his rookie season as the backup to last year's senior starter Todd Steele, and the 6-0, 210-pounder should claim the top job this fall.

Smith is counting on a big year running the football out of the "I" formation with occasional split-RB formations.

"First, we must run the football and control the line of scrimmage," Smith said. "I'm talking 200-plus yards a game on the ground. If we do that, we can have a successful passing game — one that averages 200-plus yards, too — and that will create the big play. That's our goal on offense — creating and executing the big play."

UCLA

It's been 20 years — Gary Beban's senior season — since the Bruins had a Heisman Trophy winner, but the wait may be over if TB Gaston Green picks up where he left off last year. The 5-10 1/2, 190-pound senior exploded for 490 yards in his final two games, 224 yards and four TD's vs. Southern Cal and 266 yards vs. Brigham Young in the Freedom Bowl, a collegiate bowl record. His 224 yards were the most ever allowed by a USC team, and the postseason effort came against a BYU team that had allowed an average of just 88.8 rushing yards per game.

This year, Green needs just 563 yards on the ground to shoot past former Bruins' Freeman McNeil, Wendell Tyler and Theotis Brown to become the all-time leading ground gainer in school history. Last year, his 1,405 yards (5.6-yard average) broke McNeil's single-season school record, although Green missed one full game and carried six times for five yards in another, because of a toe injury.

Green had 100 or more yards in his last seven games, during which the Bruins went 5-1-1 and wound up ranked 14th in both wire service polls.

Green's backup, junior Eric Ball, missed most of last season with knee and hamstring injuries, but in '85 he rushed for 703 yards plus 227 more and four TD's in the Rose Bowl. Senior James Primus would be a star most other places but must battle for playing time in Westwood. He started games at fullback and halfback last year and was the team's No. 2 rusher with 459 yards. Senior Mel Farr, whose father Mel Sr. was a UCLA and Detroit Lion running back, is a two-year starter at fullback and an outstanding blocker. But he is coming off a back injury from last fall, so depth could be a problem at fullback.

For the first time in six years, the starting quarterback will not be a senior. Juniors Brendan McCracken,

who ran the Bruins' wishbone and option packages in short-yardage situations last year, and Troy Aikman, a transfer from Oklahoma, are the two top contenders.

Last year's leading receiver, Willie Anderson (36 catches, 675 yards, 18.8-yard average) is back, but FL Karl Dorrell must be replaced. The heir apparent is senior Paco Craig, who averaged 16.9 yards on 17 grabs a year ago.

TE Joe Pickert moves into the space vacated by standout Derek Tennell, and promising sophomore Charles Arbuckle provides talented depth.

Four of five starters along the offensive line are gone and, at center, converted DL Doug Wassel may be the starter. Sophomore OLG Frank Cornish, whose father Frank Sr. played defensive tackle for the Bears, figures to be a mainstay for the next three years after starting the final four games of '86. At tackle, Russ Warnick started five games last year and John Kidder started 10.

Another Bruin with a famous father, Ken Norton, whose dad, Ken Sr., was the heavyweight boxing champion of the world, leads seven returning defensive players. Norton is one of the nation's top inside linebackers and is a candidate for the Butkus and Lombardi awards. He led the Bruins with 106 tackles last year and also broke up nine passes.

UCLA OLB's Eric Smith and Camell Lake are one of the finest combinations in the nation. Smith led the Bruins with 11 sacks in '86 and Lake was the third-leading tackler on the team.

The defensive line is almost as strong as the linebacking. Senior NG Terry Tumey returns for his third season as a starter, after registering 13 tackles for loss last year, including seven sacks. Junior DT Jim Wahler tied for third on the team in tackles and had five sacks, and senior Jeff Glasser, a top reserve a year ago, should step into the void left by the departure of DT Frank Batchkoff.

FS James Washington and RCB Darryl Henley both started eight games last season. Henley intercepted four passes last year and was the Bruins' top kickoff returner. Washington was a second-team All-American in '85, but a knee injury curtailed his '86 season and limited his participation in spring practice. Senior Alan Dial should move into the starting SS spot vacated by Craig Rutledge. Dennis Price could claim the other CB position, but top '86 DB reserve Marcus Turner may have something to say about that.

P Harold Barkate averaged 42.4 yards per kick in '86, second best in the Pac-10, but PK David Franey, who hit 16-of-21 FG attempts, must be replaced. Sophomores Alfredo Velasco and Wes Denton, who shared the kickoff duties last year, are the contenders.

Arizona State

Outland and Lombardi trophy candidate OG Randall McDaniel has started 28 straight games, and the Sun Devils have averaged more than 200 yards in the last 17 of them, including 188 yards in the Rose Bowl victory over Michigan. Finding a quarterback to play behind McDaniel and fellow OG Todd Kalis, another returning starter, was a major priority during spring practice. The issue still isn't settled, but Daniel Ford, last year's backup to Jeff Van Raaphorst, appears to be the favorite, followed by John Walker.

An even greater concern was finding a tight end and, although three have emerged — Jeff Johnson, Ryan McReynolds and Scott Veach — none of them has played in a college game before. WR Aaron Cox caught six passes for 104 yards against Michigan and has career totals of 88 receptions, 1,720 yards and 19.5 yards per catch.

The running game should again be impressive, with the return of seniors TB Darryl Harris and FB Channing Williams, who shared Most Valuable Back honors last season. Harris zipped through Michigan for 109 yards, in addition to the 955 markers he chalked up during the regular season. Williams rolled up 554 rushing yards, blocked well and returned kickoffs.

The Sun Devils suffered devastating losses in the defensive line, losing five players who started at least six games last season, but senior DT Shawn Patterson has emerged as the new kingpin of the group.

"Patterson is the leader of the defensive line, and that's where we need leadership," head coach John Cooper said. "We lost a lot of good people up front. But Shawn had a fanatical spring, and he won't let up in the fall."

Trace Armstrong, who started three games and played in eight, despite injuries and illness, should become a full-time starter. But the Devils will be going with some new and somewhat inexperienced defensive linemen, although senior ILB's Greg Clark and Stacy Harvey can make up for a lot of mistakes. Between the two returning starters, they averaged 20 tackles per game in '86.

Senior Eric Allen, who has started 28 consecutive games, is back at the left corner, while Anthony Parker and Jeff Joseph return on the other side, where they split time last year, after Parker was injured at midseason. Those two also combined to form what may have been the best PR tandem in the country. Parker returned 14 punts for a 22-yard average, and Joseph returned 15 for a 14.1-yard average.

Washington

The Huskies have lost five first-team All-PAC-10 players but still return 14 starters, including senior QB Chris Chandler, a possible Heisman

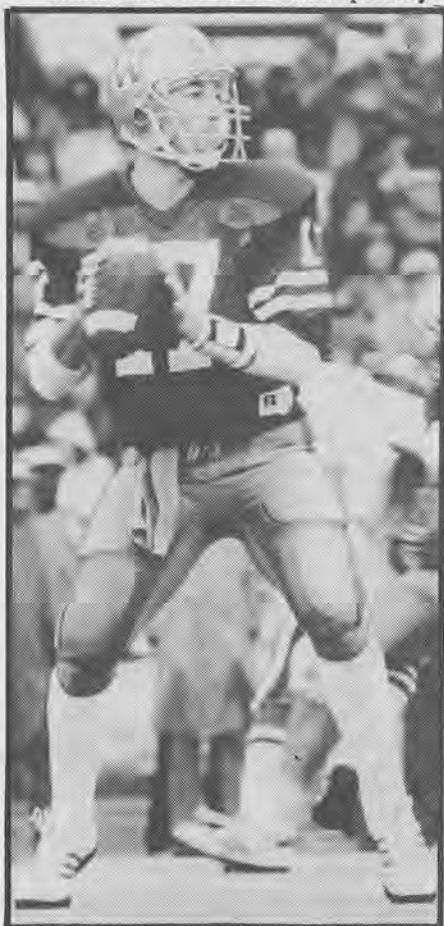
trophy candidate, first-team All-Conference junior OG Mike Zandofsky (6-2 1/2, 296) and TB Vince Weathersby (880 rushing yards, 5.5-yard average).

In '86, Chandler completed 58 percent of his passes for 1994 yards and 20 TD's. Head coach Don James has said: "He's potentially the best quarterback we've ever had here." That's high praise, considering James has coached NFL QB's Warren Moon, Tom Flick and Steve Pelluer.

Chandler has a ways to go in matching last year's performance that culminated in an 8-3-1 record, the No. 17 ranking in the nation, the Huskies' eighth straight bowl trip (28-6 loss to Alabama in the Sun), a school-record 34 points per game on offense, and a defense that ranked seventh nationally.

WR Lonzell Hill and TE Rod Jones, the team's top two receivers in '86 and both All-Pac-10 first-team picks, are gone, but FL Darryl Franklin (26 catches, 427 yards) is back and will be joined in the starting lineup by junior Brian Slater, four of whose nine receptions last year went for TD's. C Bern Brostek, an honorable mention All-Conference pick, and OG Brett Wiese, who started when healthy last year, join Zandofsky on the offensive line. OT Rick McLeod also missed time last year due to injuries, but he should start this year.

James also welcomes back possibly



Washington QB Chris Chandler

the best and brainiest LB unit in the country. Senior ILB David Rill led the team with 14 tackles per game and was a first-team Academic All-American last year. ILB Tom Erlandson was the Huskies' No. 2 tackler, with 10 hits per game, and he also made the Pac-10 All-Academic team, along with weak-side LB Bo Yates, who had 10 tackles behind the line of scrimmage for 81 yards in losses.

Washington's greatest losses occurred on the defensive line, where Reggie Rogers, Steve Alvord and Steve Roberts must be replaced. Senior Brian Habib (6-5, 280) and sophomore Dennis Brown (6-4, 302) are set at two spots, and Bob Willig (6-5, 247) will try to replace Rogers, the No. 7 pick in the NFL draft. Both starting corners return, including honorable mention All-PAC-10 Tony Zackery.

Stanford

Defense made the difference last year. The Cardinals allowed just 101.3 rushing yards per game and 14.9 points.

Those numbers may be tough to match with the loss of five key performers, including first-team All-Pac-10 players DT Tony Leiker and ILB Dave Wyman, who led the team in tackles three of the past four years. But two-year starters OLB Curt Colehower and SS Brad Humphreys lead a group of six returning starters on defense.

Stanford is as strong as any team in the Pac-10 at nose guard with 6-2, 245-pound junior Ray Huckestein who has been a sometime starter for two years. DT Lester Archambeau was honorable mention All-Pac-10 as a redshirt freshman in '86 and could be a dominant player this season.

"He'll be one of the great defensive players ever to play at Stanford before he's through," said Cardinal defensive coordinator Dick Mannini.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of any of the candidates for the other DT spot.

Junior ILB Barry McKeever (6-3, 241) is the successor to Wyman. McKeever was the team's second-leading tackler, although he missed two complete games because of injury. McKeever excels against the run and had 18 tackles vs. Southern Cal last year. The other ILB position will be decided between Kevin Richardson, who started three times in '86, and Darron Bennett, who blocked three kicks on special teams last season.

Colehower (6-2, 230) has started 19 straight games going into the '87 season and, like McKeever, is strongest against the run. Rob Hinkley (6-5, 235) is the favorite at the other OLB position, but he may be tested by several promising reserves.

In the secondary, 6-3, 200-pound SS Brad Humphreys is a two-year starter, while RCB Alan Grant started 11 games last year as a redshirt freshman. They are being counted on

to solidify a unit that has the other two spots up for grabs. At free safety, junior Rick Theder and senior Bruce Richardson are the co-favorites. The other LCB spot should be decided between junior Pat Kelly and senior Chris Young.

In the kicking department, the Cardinals return a pair of three-year lettermen who had very dissimilar seasons in '86. P Doug Robinson averaged 41.6 yards per punt last year and had a 39.0-yard net average, the conference's best. Robinson holds school records with 148 punts and 5,948 yards. PK Dave Sweeney, after hitting 12-of-18 as a sophomore, made just 4-of-15 in '86.

In recent history, Stanford has always been known as one of the country's premier passing teams. This season it will be more well known for its running game because of Pac-10 Offensive Player of the Year Brad Muster. The 6-3, 226-pound senior rushed for 1,053 yards and caught 61 passes, both team highs. He had 565 receiving yards and one TD to go with the dozen scores he accounted for on the ground.

"I think it's pretty safe to say that he'll be handling the ball between 25-30 times a game again, just as he has for the past two years," said head coach Jack Elway. "I'd be crazy if I did anything different."

Muster became only the fifth player in NCAA history to rush for 1,000 yards and catch 50 passes in the same season.

The Cardinals won't have to rely solely on Muster, however. Another All-America candidate is senior WR Jeff James, whose 52 receptions and 779 yards were both third best in the league. James averaged 15 yards per catch and had eight scoring grabs.

The Cardinals' third preseason All-America candidate is 6-3, 270-pound junior C Andy Sinclair. He will receive plenty of support from returning starters Andy Papathanassiou, a junior guard; 6-5, 265-pound John Zentner, a junior tackle; and senior TE Eric Snelson, who had 21 catches last year.

Obviously, the biggest problem on offense is replacing John Paye, the second-most-productive quarterback in school history.

Junior Greg Ennis spelled the ailing Paye in two nationally televised games last year, and that experience makes him the No. 1 man entering the new season. But he will be pushed by four other hopefuls, plus highly regarded freshman Jason Palumbis, who may be redshirted.

Arizona

Head coach Dick Tomey returns to the mainland after a 10-year stint in Hawaii, where he led the Rainbow Warriors to a 63-46 record. Tomey replaces Larry Smith, who took the top job at Southern Cal after leading the Wildcats to a 9-3 record last year,



Stanford All-America candidate C Andy Sinclair

which included a 30-21 victory over North Carolina in the Aloha Bowl.

Unlike many first-year coaches, Tomey does not have to worry about reestablishing a slumping program.

"Usually when a coach comes in, he has to face a major rebuilding task," Tomey said. "That's not the case here, though. We plan to build upon what's been done and take the program to greater heights."

It's already at a pretty lofty level. The Cats are 31-13-2 over the past four years, and this year's squad should be able to get off to a fast start.

Of the Wildcats' first four games this fall, three are nonconference affairs. All three are at home, and the only semi-tough contest should be the opener against Iowa. The other two victims are New Mexico and Bowling Green. The Cats must face UCLA in Week Three, but the next two conference outings are against weak sisters Oregon State and California.

Down the stretch, however, the Cats will be put to the test. They close with Stanford, Washington State, Washington, Southern Cal and Arizona State. And only the Washington game is in Tucson.

There are some gaping holes to fill, though. The second-leading quarterback (Alfred Jenkins) and the third-most-productive runner (David Adams, 1,175 yards in '86) in school history are gone. So are three starting offensive linemen. On defense, both start-

ing linebackers are history, as are a pair of defensive linemen, a punter and a cornerback.

As a third-stringer last year, QB Craig Bergman got almost no playing time, but he has the edge over redshirt freshman Rob Tomlinson and walk-on Rob Kanyur. Adams' replacement, Art Greathouse, has much more experience, having carried 87 times for 404 yards last year, as a freshman.

Wide receiver is the most talented

Feist's Factors

■Southern Cal is 9-2 ATS vs. Arizona, in last 11 meetings.

■UCLA is 7-1 ATS vs. Arizona, since 1973.

■Arizona State is 7-2 as a home underdog, since 1973.

■Washington is 9-4 ATS vs. Stanford, since 1973.

■The visitor is 10-4 ATS in the Stanford-USC series.

■Arizona has beaten ASU straight up and ATS six-straight years.

■The away team is 13-3 ATS when Washington State plays either Arizona school.

■Oregon is 4-9 ATS the week before playing Oregon State.

■Oregon State is 9-16 as an away conference underdog of plus-10 to 20.

■Cal is 4-10 ATS vs. UCLA, in their last 14 meetings.

position on the team. Derek Hill and Jeff Fairholm were the Cats' top two pass catchers last year, combining for 56 receptions and 905 yards. There is also some quality depth here. The top three tight ends are also back from '86, led by Vince Lotti, and they are backed up by three redshirt freshmen.

The Wildcats led the PAC-10 in rushing last year, thanks in large part to C Joe Tofflemire, a second-team All-American.



Arizona SS Chuck Cecil

creates a problem. DT George Hinkle and NT Dana Wells return, and Tomey hopes one of a group of youngsters can adequately fill the other DT spot, and the other can provide depth.

OLB Boomer Gibson had 8 1/2 sacks as a junior in '86, and the Singleton twins, Chris and Kevin, lead a qualified group at the other wing. Both inside linebackers are gone, and seniors Jerry Beasley and Blake Custer are being counted on as replacements, although Custer is still not back to the 1985 level of play he performed at before a knee injury disabled him. A sophomore and four freshman will also battle for playing time.

Even with the play of third-team All-America SS Chuck Cecil, the Cats were the Pac-10's worst team against the pass. Great improvement is expected, although Cecil will have a hard time topping his '86 performance. In addition to six interceptions, the 6-0, 183-pound junior led the loop with 19 pass breakups. Cecil set school records with 142 yards in interception returns and a 100-yarder against Colorado State. The former walk-on had 18 tackles and an interceptions against Southern Cal. Cecil has been a Pac-10 academic All-America for the past two seasons and has made quite an impression on Wildcat opponents.

"Chuck Cecil is a heat-seeking missile," said North Carolina DB coach Bobby Elliott.

"On the field, it's like Chuck jumps into a phone booth, changes clothes and comes out with a big 'S' on his chest," said Southern Cal head coach Larry Smith. "He is an impact player. Chuck is a guy who makes you sit up and take notice."

Last year, the coaching staff worried about replacing PK Max Zendejas. They needn't have bothered. Freshman Gary Coston was the most accurate kicker in the country, connecting on 21-of-24 attempts (88 percent) and hitting 17 straight, breaking Zendejas' school record of 11. Coston won the Pac-10 scoring title and was second in the nation with 21 field goals. Last year, as an academic senior, Jeff Valder handled the long-range FG tries, hitting 3-of-4 from past 40 yards. He may delay graduation to play one more season.

Washington State

Head coach Jim Walden left for Iowa State, and Dennis Erickson came over from Wyoming to take control of the Cougar program. In his only season at Wyoming, Erickson was 6-6, following a 32-15 four-year stint at Idaho.

Thirteen starters return for the Cougars, but the experience and talent at the skill positions is limited. The offense will rely on the leadership of two-year regulars TE Chris Leighton and ORG Mike Utley, who will be aided by returning starters Ken Kuiper and Chris Dyko at the tackles. FB Ed Tingstad averaged 4.7 yards per carry

in limited action last season. Timm Rosenbach, who saw sparse activity last year, should start at quarterback.

The defense also boasts a pair of two-year starters, LB's Brian Forde and Maury Metcalf. Forde is the main man, having led last year's squad with 157 tackles. DE's Marvin Adams and Chris Hiller are returning starters, as is DT Tim Downing and CB Shawn Landrum. P Rob Myers and PK Kevin Adams also return to the starting lineup.

Oregon

Two straight 5-6 seasons, a porous defense that allowed six opponents 35 or more points, plus the loss of two-time All-Pac-10 QB Chris Miller, have prompted head coach Rich Brooks to initiate some sweeping changes in Eugene.

The Ducks will scrap their old 4-3 flex defense in favor of a 5-2 alignment and will strive for a more balanced attack. Oregon generated 362.2 yards of total offense in '86, but more than 69 percent of it was supplied by Miller.

TB Derek Loville, last year's leading rusher (544 yards) and second-leading receiver (35 catches), although he started just four games as a true freshman, will be back hoping to lead an improved ground game. Last year, the Ducks were outrushed by nearly 2-to-1.

The ground attack should also be bolstered by the move of sophomore Latin Berry from tailback to fullback. Berry started four games last year, when Loville was hurt, and wound up as the Ducks' No. 2 rusher (291 yards,



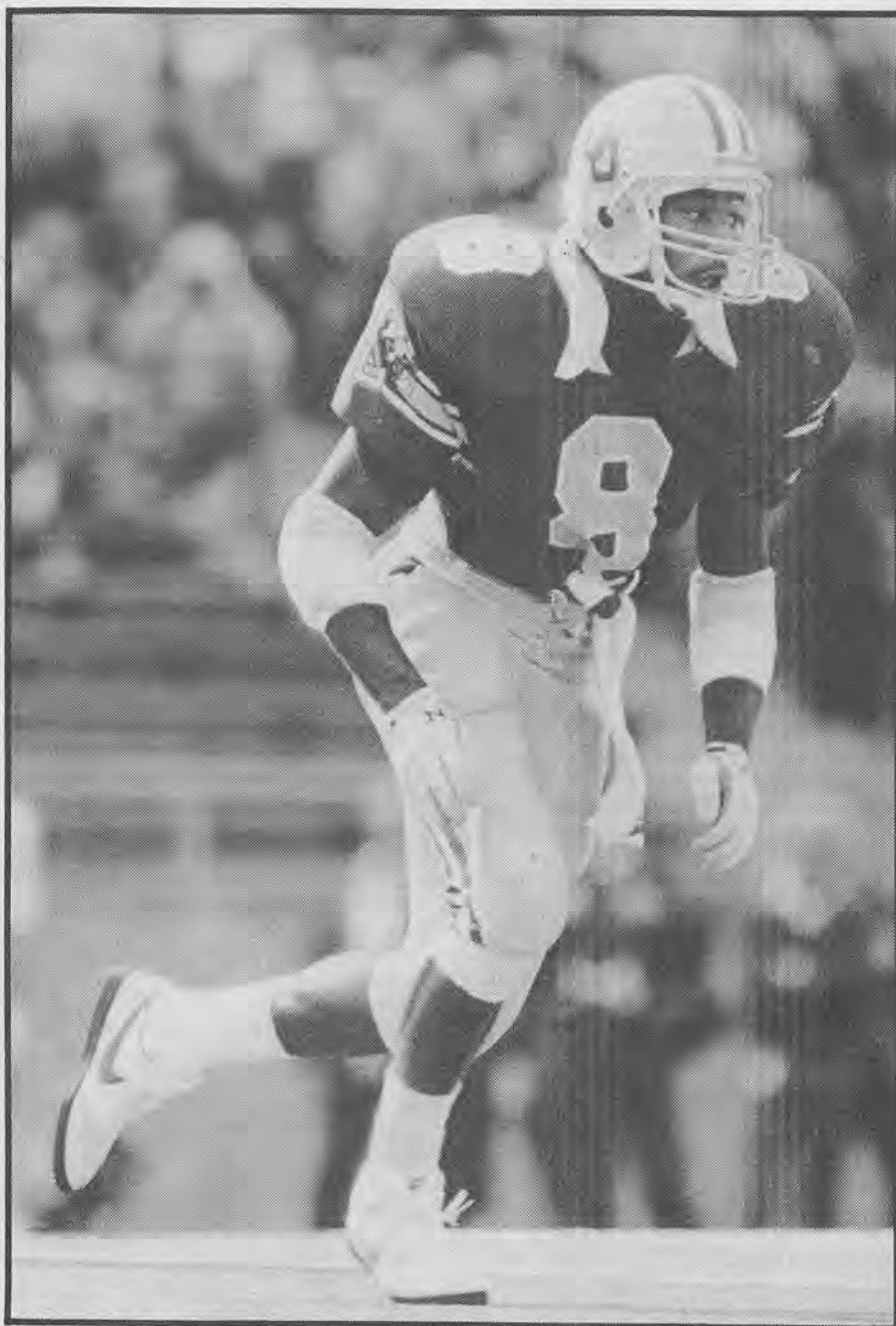
Oregon TB Derek Loville

"Joe has as much innate quickness and athletic ability as any lineman I have been around," Tomey said.

Ohio State OL coach Bob Palcic added: "Tofflemire is a young Mike Webster."

If 6-2, 318-pound OLT Jeff Rinehart can win the battle of the bulge, he is a fine run blocker. Junior Doug Penner is the only quality backup returning, and he may start at guard. To shore up this area, DL Rob Woods may be moved to the other side of the ball and TE Hugh Verbalaitis may move inside.

Arizona was fourth in the country defending the run, but the departure of Stan Mataele and Jim Birmingham



SS Anthony Newman, the heart of Oregon's defense

4.6-yard average) and No. 3 receiver (29 catches).

The receiving corps is in excellent shape. J.J. Birden started the '86 season as the No. 1 flanker, but suffered a broken arm in the fourth game and wound up with only 20 catches for 257 yards. His replacement, Rod Green, finished with a team-high 512 yards on 29 grabs, a 17.6-yard average. Both players are back this season, as are Sam Archer, Jan Cespedes and Terry Obee, who split the SE spot a year ago. Obee averaged 25.6 yards on 10 receptions.

Sophomore Pete Nelson saw some limited playing time as Miller's back-up last year. He will be pushed by junior Kevin Smith, who hasn't played in two years, after transferring from Brigham Young.

Senior OT Jeff Stefanick (6-5, 289)

and OG Chris Husko lend stability to the offensive line. Stefanick began his collegiate career at guard, moved to center and then grew into the OT position. Husko, last year, became the first redshirt freshman to start every game during a season in Brooks' 11-year tenure at Oregon.

Senior Anthony Newman is the heart of the defense. Despite playing strong safety, the 6-foot, 206-pounder led the Ducks in tackles for loss with six last year, intercepted four passes and recovered three fumbles. Rollin Putzier will move from tackle to nose guard in the Ducks' new defense, and at 6-4, 279, he will provide strength and bulk in the middle. Last year, he was the No. 2 tackler with 91 hits, and has started 22 straight games.

PK Matt MacLeod (26-of-27 PAT's, 11-of-16 FG's) and All-Conference P

Mike Preacher have departed, and their replacements are questionable. P Dean Otto is a converted place kicker, and PK Kirk Dennis has never attempted a collegiate field goal, although he did kick off a few times in '86.

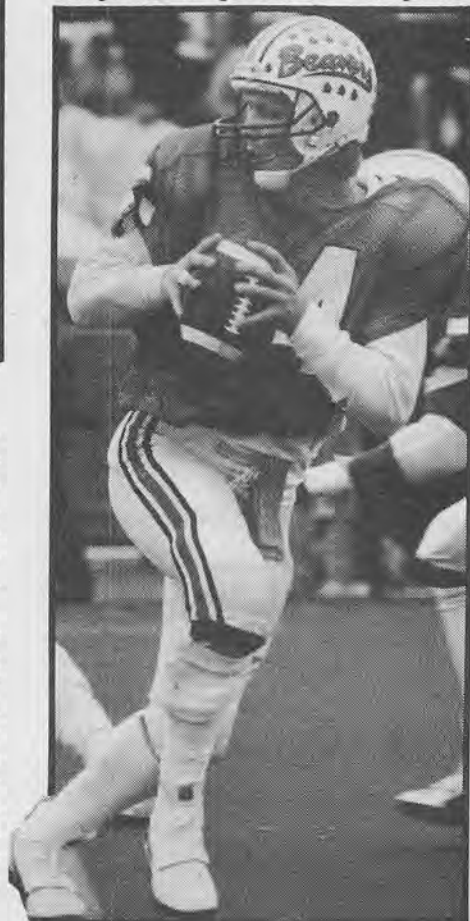
Oregon State

Head coach Dave Kragthorpe's first two editions finished 3-8, certainly nothing to write home about, but they represent the school's best two-year win total since 1971-72. In the 13 years before Kragthorpe's arrival, the Beavers were 22-119-2. Kragthorpe is confident that his current squad has more talent and is deeper than his previous two teams, and he is planning on that being reflected in the final record. But, with non-conference dates at Texas and Georgia and an always tough league slate, four wins may be hard to come by. Still, there is hope.

"We will certainly have a better football team in 1987, than we did in 1986, there is no question about that," Kragthorpe said.

Moving the ball — in the air, anyway — was no problem for the Beavers last year. Getting the ball in the endzone and establishing a ground game were major obstacles.

Junior QB Erik Wilhelm established 23 school records last year, three of which were also Pac-10 standards. He completed 60 percent of 470 passes



Oregon State QB Erik Wilhelm



OSU CB Lavance Northington

for 2,871 yards, a total that has been bettered only by John Elway and Steve Dils in the conference. Five of his top seven receivers return, and all of them caught more than 20 passes in '86.

"Erik will leave here with all kinds of records two years from now," Kragthorpe said. "In the meantime, we have got to win more football games, and specifically, we have got to score more points."

Unfortunately, as much yardage as the Beavers chewed up, they scored more than 14 points in only two games, one of them against Boise State. And the ground game was almost nonexistent, averaging less than 44 yards per game, about one-fourth of their opponents' total.

With both starting tackles gone, the offensive line needs retooling, but C Dave Orndorff provides an exceptional anchor to the unit. Last year, as a junior-college transfer, he stepped in and started all 11 games, making the second-team All-Pac-10 squad Orndorff is also a top-notch heavyweight wrestler and was ranked as high as No. 6 in the country last season. Jeff Talamantes (6-2, 262) returns as a starting guard, where he provides fine pass protection.

Senior CB Lavance Northington gives the Beavers a strong secondary, but the first two lines of defense are in need of help. Northington redshirted in '86, after a knee injury ended a sea-



Oregon State C Dave Orndorff

son that had already been hampered by cracked ribs. He intercepted a league-high seven passes and broke up 11 others in '85.

CB Teddy Johnson stepped into Northington's spot when he was injured and wound up the season with nine interceptions, best in the Pac-10 and No. 2 in the nation.

If two-year starters DT Rich Hagerty and MLB Jeff Schneider get some help up front, the Beaver defense, which allowed 23 or more points seven times, should show definite improvement.

California

Bruce Snyder takes over at Cal after four years as RB coach with the Los Angeles Rams. He inherits a team that returns 15 starters, but which will be forced to start inexperienced sophomores at skill positions like quarterback, flanker, outside linebacker and

both CB spots.

Last year's squad was the lowest scoring Cal team in 20 years. The Golden Bears scored more than 18 points in just one game and suffered through a six-game stretch where they totaled just 50 points. This year, Snyder brought in offensive coordinator Terry Shea, whose unit at San Jose State led the nation in total offense last year and scored 397 points, 252 more than Cal.

Shea has plenty of time to work with QB Troy Taylor, who was thrown to the wolves last season, halfway through his freshman year. Taylor showed plenty of promise, completing 58 percent of his passes for 891 yards. Seven of the top eight ground gainers are back, but the leader, TB Chris Richards totaled just 269 yards, and the Bears averaged only 2.6 yards per carry as a team. WR James Devers could be the big-play man. Last year, he caught 40 passes for 582 yards, including 29 for 431 yards in the final five games.

Returning starters Dave Zawatson (6-5, 270), Steve Anderson (6-6, 250) and Kam King (6-3, 255) could make the offensive line one of the strongest areas on the team. The defensive line should be even better, as all three starters and the top eight players from 1986 return. LB Ken Harvey may be the impact player the Bears need. The 6-3, 225-pounder bench-presses 455 pounds, runs a 4.57-second 40 yards and has a 38-inch vertical jump. During spring practice, he was unstoppable on the blitz. ■



California LB Ken Harvey

Southeastern Conference

Predicted Finish

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Tennessee | 6. Alabama |
| 2. Auburn | 7. Mississippi |
| 3. Georgia | 8. Mississippi State |
| 4. Louisiana State | 9. Kentucky |
| 5. Florida | 10. Vanderbilt |

1986 Records

	Conf.	Overall
Louisiana State	5-1-0	9-3-0
Alabama	4-2-0	10-3-0
Georgia	4-2-0	8-4-0
Mississippi	4-2-0	8-3-1
Auburn	4-2-0	9-3-0
Tennessee	3-3-0	7-5-0
Mississippi State	2-4-0	6-5-0
Kentucky	2-4-0	5-5-1
Florida	3-4-0	6-5-0
Vanderbilt	0-6-0	1-10-0

Tennessee

Tennessee, which got off to a horrendous start last season, hopes to avoid a similar fate in 1987 with the return of many of the principals responsible for a five-game winning streak that carried to through the Liberty Bowl.

Tabbed for the Top Ten in preseason polls, the Volunteers started off with a 2-5 record before rebounding. Coach Johnny Majors hopes to reverse that start this year.

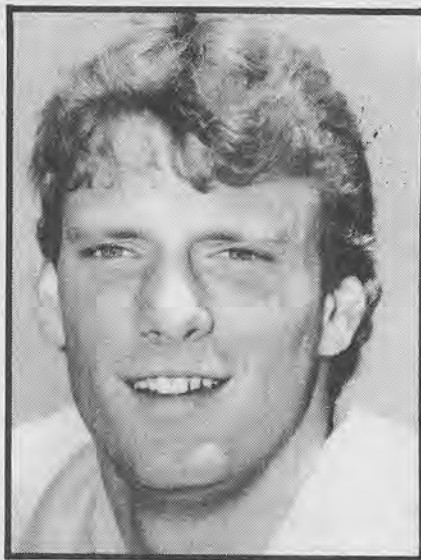
The Vols start off the season in the Kickoff Classic against Iowa, and face Colorado State, California, Georgia Tech and Boston College, in addition to a strong SEC slate.

QB Jeff Francis is the man in the spotlight in '87. He went into last season unsure of his place on the depth chart and came out of it the seventh-ranked passer in the NCAA. A poised and composed quarterback, Francis completed 64 percent of his 233 passes for 1,846 yards.

Fronted by a strong offensive line, Francis was sacked only six times in '86. Harry Galbreath, a second-team All-America guard, heads a line that includes returning starters C Todd Kirk and OG John Bruhin.

Tennessee's relatively recent flair for producing nationally renowned receivers — Stanley Morgan, Anthony Hancock, Willie Gault, Tim McGee, Joey Clinkscales — continues with fleet Anthony Miller, a senior who caught 36 passes for an 18.5 yard average and five touchdowns last year. Sophs Terence Cleveland and Thomas Woods will burn opposing secondaries that gang up on Miller. Nate Middlebrooks could turn tight end into a more visible part of the passing game.

Last year, injuries struck hardest at running back. FB William Howard compiled 787 yards on 144 carries, though he missed much of the season. He also had 14 scores. He'll be joined in the backfield by Keith Davis and



Tennessee QB Jeff Francis

Charles Wilson, alternating at tailback.

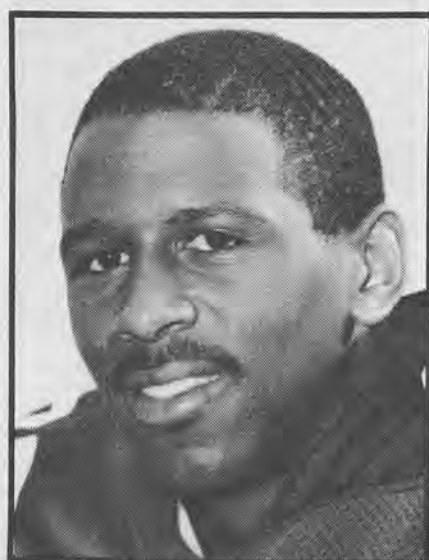
Defensively, Ken Donahue's crew will try to get back to the level of 1985. Nine starters return, including freshman sensation DT Marion Hobby, ILB's Kelly Ziegler and Darrin Miller, OLB Bryan Kimbro and CB's Terry McDaniel and Victor Peppers, a 155-pound super leaper. They should improve on last year's numbers of only 13 interceptions and 21 sacks.

PK Carlos Reveiz is gone, but three candidates are vying for that job.

Auburn

The winningest team in the SEC in the last four years, Auburn figures to be on top in '87, too. Although Brent Fullwood is gone to the pros, 15 starters return, and coach Pat Dye knows he has the nucleus of one of the nation's top teams if a couple no-names turn into big-names.

QB Jeff Burger will run the show again; he's the best Tiger quarterback since Pat Sullivan in 1971 and can pass with anyone in the conference. Burger's favorite target will be WR



Auburn WR Lawyer Tillman

Lawyer Tillman, who could be All-America. In '86, Tillman caught 35 passes for 730 yards and six touchdowns and is famous for his fingertip catches. TE Walter Reeves continues Auburn's excellence at this position in the '80's and could be the best in the country. He can catch and block and will be another favorite of Burger's.

The offensive line will be strong again, led by OT Stacy Searels and OT Jim Thompson, both of whom bear watching.

Dye's biggest problem on offense will be replacing Fullwood and Tommie Agee. Look for either James Joseph, Vincent Harris or Reggie Ware to become household names in Auburn, Ala. next fall. One of them has to come through for the Tigers to take the SEC crown and, chances are one of them will. Joseph led the group with 265 yards last year and a 5.1 yard average per carry.

The defense is a little more settled, with nine starters back. Aundray Bruce, a linebacker/defensive end; DT Tracy Rocker and CB Kevin Porter could be deserving of All-America

kudos. Bruce was a first-team SEC pick last year and specializes in QB sacks and tackles for losses, and was the third-leading tackler on the team. Teams usually throw away from Porter, but he led last year's secondary in tackles with 56. Rocker is a bulwark against the run and is the kind of player who makes things happen on defense.

Kurt Crain is the Captian Crunch of the Auburn defense and S Shan Morris is a real pass defender.

Auburn's defense is the kind that will strip the ball and turn it over to its offense. If the offense can find a way to get it into the endzone, look out! Auburn is definitely looking to go farther than the Citrus Bowl this year.

Georgia

Considering the overall lack of depth, experience and the record-setting number of injuries which beset the Georgia Bulldogs in 1986, it's somewhat remarkable they won eight games.

And, to become like to Georgia teams that dominated college football in the first half of this decade, coach Vince Dooley has a real job on his hands.

Despite the return of 15 starters (eight on offense, seven on defense), the Dogs will have to replace some key performers: OT's Victor Perry and All-America Wilbur Strozier, work-horse FB David McCluskey, All-SEC DT Henry Harris, LB Steve Boswell, CB Gary Moss and All-America S John Little.

Thank God Lars Tate is back at tail-back. "Mr. Everything" for Georgia in '86, Tate led the team in rushing with 954 yards, receiving with 22 catches for 214 yards and scoring with 102 points. It was the first time in modern history a Bulldog player has led the team in all three categories. An honorable mention All-America last year, his 23 career TD's place him behind impressive company — Herschel Walker, Frank Sinkwich and Charley Trippi.

A total lack of experience at full-back has necessitated the switch of Hiawatha Berry, formerly a defensive lineman, but more help is sorely needed.

James Jackson returns after a fine '86 season at quarterback. A two-year starter, his 1,885 yards in total offense is the third best in school history. A repeat of '86 would put him second behind only Walker on Georgia's total-offense list.



Georgia's Lars Tate on the run

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LSU C Nacho Albergamo fronts Tom Hodson

At receiver, returnees Cassius Osborn, John Thomas, Nate Lewis and David Dukes will compete for two positions, though the four caught only 27 passes among them last year. All-SEC candidate Troy Sadowski is back at tight end. A fine blocker, even he caught only 12 passes in '86.

Three-year starting OG's Kim Stephens and Mack Burroughs and C Todd Wheeler anchor the offensive line. Tackles must be found.

Chances are the Bulldogs won't have the injuries they had last year on the defensive front — players came and went so quickly in '86, one needed a program to tell them apart. Tyrone McClendon, Larry Brown and Aaron Chubb, Jr. are healthy and ready to go this year.

All-America candidate John Brantley, the team's top tackler in '86 with 160, solidifies one ILB position. Both outside backers, Vince Guthrie and Will Jones, return.

No position causes more concern than the secondary, which was thin last year and has only one starting cornerback returning in Greg Williams.

Louisiana State

The Bill Arnsparger Era at Louisiana State, short as it may have been, is over and the Mike Archer Era is about to begin.

Arnsparger, who rejuvenated LSU's football program to the top echelon of the SEC, left after three years to become the athletic director at rival Florida.

Archer, at 33, is the youngest coach in the NCAA Division I-A. The Tiger

defensive coordinator the last two seasons under Arnsparger, Archer makes up for what he may lack in experience with a strong background acquired at Miami (Fla.), as both a player and assistant coach. His Tiger defense ranked third nationally against scoring last year.

He'll attempt in '87 to continue LSU's glittering 26-8-2 record of the last three seasons, including a 9-3 record last year and an appearance in the Sugar Bowl.

A year ago, LSU was faced with the challenge of replacing an entire starting backfield. That answer was found, and QB Tom Hodson, TB Harvey Williams, WR Wendell Davis and a highly experienced offensive line set a school total-offense record. More of the same can be expected this year.

Fifteen starters return, including eight on offense. Hodson, the SEC Freshman of the Year in '86, was the top-rated frosh quarterback in the nation. In tandem with Davis, the duo accounted for 80 receptions for 1,244 yards and 11 of Hodson's 19 touchdowns. Davis, a senior, had the second-most catches and the most yardage of any receiver in the nation.

Williams, a freshman in '86, led the team with 726 yards. Mickey Harris and Victor Jones will see a lot of action at running back. Three offensive linemen return, OLT Ralph Norwood, C Nacho Albergamo and ORG Eric Andolsek, one of the nation's best.

Pete Jenkins moves up to become the new defensive coordinator, and inherits a unit that lost its heralded line, but returns three of the four



LSU's All-America WR Wendell Davis

starting linebackers and the entire secondary. Still, NG Henry Thomas, DE's Roland Barbay and Karl Wilson and LB Toby Caston will be sorely missed.

Linebackers Ron Sancho and Nicky Hazard were among the team leaders in tackles last year and can be counted on to provide leadership and support behind an inexperienced defensive front.

FS Chris Carrier returns after leading the SEC with six interceptions. The secondary is brilliant against both the pass and the run.

If a game is close, the Tigers can count on PK David Browndyke, who was 14-of-18 in field goals as a freshman last year.

A strong non-conference slate includes Ohio State and Texas A&M, but Georgia is the only tough SEC game on the road.

LSU has not won back-to-back SEC championships since 1935-36, so the challenge is certainly there. A seven-game home schedule, a crop of proven returning talent, a new head coach and the lure of another conference crown should provide the impetus for another strong showing.

Florida

With NCAA probation and sanctions over, Florida is bound to find itself on television a number of times because of its toughest-in-the-nation schedule that includes Miami, Florida State, Alabama, LSU, Auburn and Georgia.

But, even with no more probation, the impact of the lower scholarship signees in recent years leaves Florida

virtually devoid of depth.

Coach Galen Hall heads into his third full season, coming off a 6-5 year, a far cry from the 17-1-1 record he had compiled in 1984 and '85. Thirteen starters are back, but key players such as Ricky Nattiel, Jeff Zimmerman, Ron Moten and Adrian White will be missed.

With Vinny Testaverde in the pros, Florida's Kerwin Bell is now the best quarterback in the state, if not the country. Bell, a former walk-on from tiny Mayo, Fla., heads into his senior season within range of breaking many school and SEC records, and has a legitimate shot at earning All-America honors and Heisman Trophy consideration. He's thrown for over 5,800 yards and 47 touchdowns in three seasons. Should the Gators get off to a good start and make a few TV appearances, expect to hear a lot about Bell this year.

He'll have a tough time finding receivers, however. Sophomores Stacey Simmons, Tony Lomack, Darrell Woulard and Ben Glover and junior transfer Willie Snead will contend for the two WR posts. They are all untested. Tight end is another problem, as the Gators combined for only six receptions in 11 games from that position last year.

The Gator offense fell off 100 yards a game from 1985 to '86, and an improved offensive line is the key to bringing those numbers up. Very few quality linemen on both sides have been signed in recent years. Look for Bell to run for his life more than he wants.

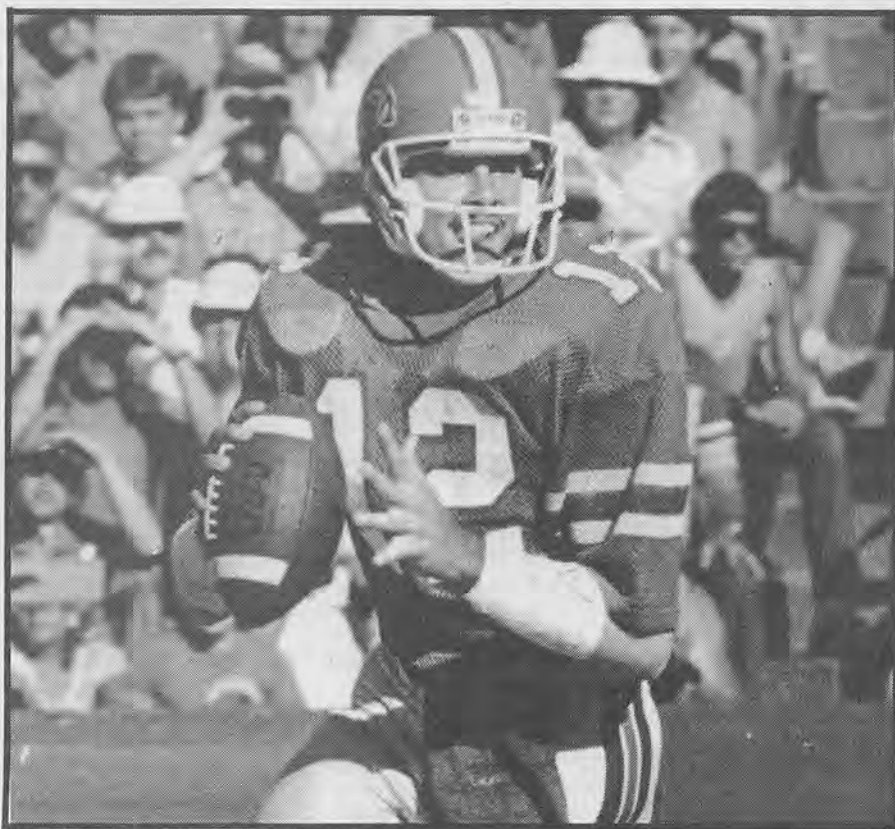
The most experienced segment of the Gator offense is running back, where the top six ball carriers return. Octavious Gould, a freshman in '86 who led Florida with 562 yards, is at tailback, while Anthony Williams leads the pack at fullback and is also a sound receiver.

If Florida is to maintain its place among the annual defensive leaders in the SEC, several players must step forward. Only three defensive interior linemen have seen extensive playing time — DT's Henry Brown and Rhondy Weston and NG Jeff Roth. OLB Clifford Charlton is a definite All-America candidate, but he is the lone returnee among the four linebackers. The strength of the defensive unit will be the secondary. Second-team All-America CB Jarvis Williams is back and will be teamed with mates Ricky Mulberry, Kerry Watkins and Louis Oliver.

There's no reason the Gators can't contend for the SEC title with a little luck, but it is likely to take a few years before the effects of the NCAA probation wear off.

Alabama

People in Tuscaloosa, Ala. were surprised last December when Ray Perkins, who replaced the legendary Bear Bryant left his alma mater after



Going for the Heisman — Florida QB Kerwin Bell



Florida's Jarvis Williams is one of the nation's top defenders

only four years to return to the NFL and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Perhaps an even bigger surprise was the hiring of Bill Curry as head football coach.

Though he has a wealth of football knowledge and experience, Curry had no ties to the Alabama program. He spent seven years at Georgia Tech and, although he took the program from its lowest ebb and built it to respectability, 'Bama fans took note of his overall 31-43-4 record, rather than the 9-2-1 he posted with the Yellow Jackets in '86.

Curry inherits a team that returns only eight starters, five on offense and three on defense. He'll build his nucleus around sensational RB Bobby Humphrey, a 6-1, 187-pound junior who was second-team All-America last year. Humphrey rewrote most of the school's single-season rushing records, including most rushes (236) and most yards gained (1,471). He scored 17 times. He had three games with more than 200 yards rushing, owns a 5.7 average per rush and is also a fine receiver.

Ah, there's the rub . . . who's going to be throwing to him? Mike Shula has graduated after four years, but Curry will not be short on candidates at quarterback. David Smith was the backup last year, but he played sparingly; Vince Sutton started five games two years ago, but saw little action last year; highly recruited QB's Billy Ray and Jeff Dunn were redshirted last year along with Gary Hollingsworth; throw Gene Newberry in there, too, and you have the makings of a dogfight in the QB hunt. When it's over, the call will most likely go to either Dunn or Ray.

No matter, though. Last year with Shula, the Crimson Tide led the SEC

in rushing (263.9 ypg), but was last in passing (130.1 ypg).

Joining Humphrey in the backfield will be TB Gene Jelks (570 yards) and FB's Doug Allen and Bo Wright (569 yards combined), both excellent blockers.

Al Bell and Greg Richardson will be missed as pass receivers, but Curry has a fine group of replacements. He will miss Wes Neighbors at center, but G Bill Condon, an All-America candidate, will provide leadership.

Defensively, Curry has a job to do. ILB Greg Gilbert, who led the Tide with 103 stops as a soph, is back along with star DB's Randy Rockwell and Kermit Kendrick. Everywhere else is wide open.

Heaven knows the pressure will be on Curry to produce quickly, or else the alumni will be on him like he never knew at Georgia Tech. Still, if Curry learned anything from his three coaches — Bobby Dodd, Vince Lombardi and Don Shula — he can do it.

Mississippi

Coach Billy Brewer, in his fifth year at the helm at Mississippi, is a position that many of his brethren would like to be in as the 1987 season approaches: He has 18 starters returning, nine on both offense and defense.

Ole Miss went 7-3-1 last year, so the added year of experience would normally would tell you that the Rebels will be even better this go-around.

Not necessarily so. Mississippi beat the teams it was supposed to beat last year, and even pulled an upset of rival Louisiana State, but lost to the teams it was expected to lose to: Arkansas, Tennessee and Georgia.

Brewer knows, if his team is to improve, it has to beat the Top 20-cal-

ber teams.

And where quarterback Mark Young goes, so go the Rebels. Young, a junior, is coming off the best game of his career in the Independence Bowl against Texas Tech. When he throws effectively, Ole Miss will be tough to beat. The problem is that Young is not always consistent. Brewer has spent a lot of time working with Young and hopes it will pay off in the form of another bowl reward.

His favorite target will be WR J.R. Ambrose, a big-play man who is the best athlete on the team.

Mississippi's biggest problem is that it doesn't have a dominant running back. Seniors Joe Mickles, the fullback, and Willie Goodlow, the tailback, are just adequate. Pushing them is a host of freshmen — both redshirts and true first-year players. If one of them comes through, Ole Miss could take off. More than any other position in football, a freshman can step right in at running back where lack of experience isn't a must.

Defensively, LB Jeff Herrod is the big hitter and leading tackler. DE Wesley Walls is a tall, rangy player and SS Howard Moss, though he lacks speed, is a great hitter and super on run support.

Ole Miss has a reasonably easy schedule outside the SEC. With a lot of freshmen expected to see action, the Rebels could make an impact.

Mississippi State

Rockey Felker piloted one of college football's biggest surprise teams last year when the Mississippi State Bulldogs pulled off upsets over Syracuse, Tennessee and Florida and sprang out to a 6-1 start.

But, a lack of depth and key injuries



Alabama's Bill Condon clears the way for All-America candidate Bobby Humphrey

hit hard and Mississippi State lost its last four games, leaving them with a 6-5 record and out of the bowl picture.

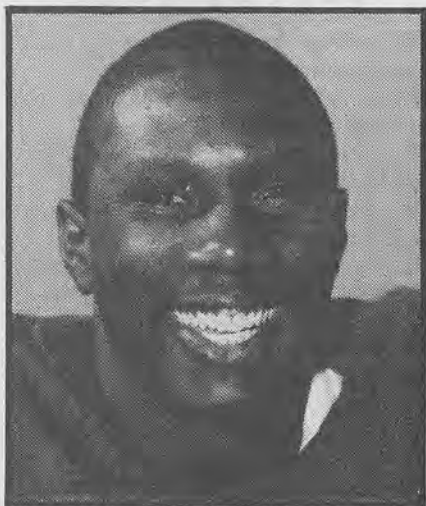
The Bulldogs scored 183 points in those first seven games, but managed just 12 in the last four, while allowing 144 to Auburn, Alabama, LSU and Mississippi, the class of the SEC.

It was quite a letdown for Bulldog fans who had such high hopes in Felker's first year as head coach. He received little heat, however, because fans remember Felker for having quarterbacked State to a 9-3 mark in 1974 which included a victory over North Carolina in the Sun Bowl.

Welcome home, they told him. Forget about those four losses at the end of '86.

But Felker knows the welcome mat won't be out forever. The biggest hurdle he has to cross in '87 is how to replace Don Smith, a do-it-all quarterback who ran for 740 yards and threw for 1,609 last year, accounting for 16 scores.

The top returning passer is Mike Davis, a 6-2, 180 pound sophomore who completed 8-of-14 passes for 79 yards and a touchdown last year. He'll be fronted by an experienced line that returns four starters — OG's Durwood Minor and Stan Sims, C Tom Goode and OT Harold Rials. Top receivers



Alabama RB Gene Jelks

Fred Hadley (29 receptions for 529 yards and three touchdowns) and Heath Jackson are back, as is TB Rodney Peters (84 carries for 367 yards).

Defensively, Felker can take solace that Cedric Corse is back. Corse, a 6-3, 215-pound senior inside linebacker, had 144 tackles last year (86 solos) and is being pushed for All-America honors.

Corse will be joined by three other returnees at linebacker — Darren Mar-



Alabama ILB Greg Gilbert

tin and OLB's Jerry Leggett and Jesse Anderson, giving the Bulldog defense a strong middle.

DT's Michael Simmons and Anthony Butts will stiffen up the front and FS Brian Hutson will solidify the secondary.

Last year was thought to be a transition year for State, until the quick start revived false hopes. This year may be more of a transition, as Felker begins to mold his own team and

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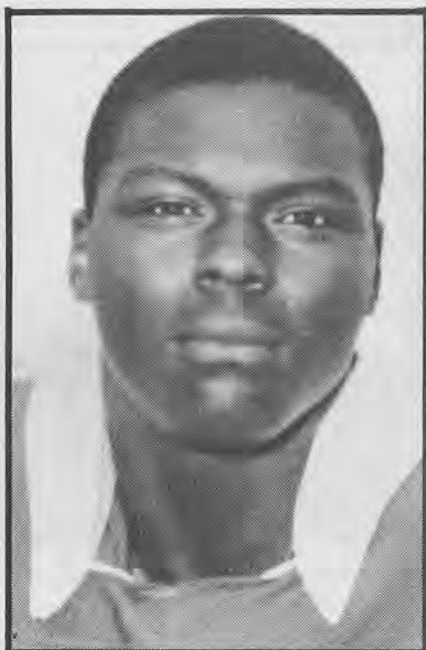
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CLIP AND SAVE





Kentucky RB Ivy Joe Hunter

attempts to make a respectable finish in the SEC.

His out-of-conference schedule could provide three victories (Southwestern Louisiana, Louisiana Tech and Memphis State), so it remains to be seen how many W's he can get against the SEC elite — Auburn, Alabama and LSU. If he pulls off a couple more upsets this year and prevents the late-season collapse, the Bulldogs could surprise.

Kentucky

The No. 1 challenge facing Kentucky coach Jerry Claiborne as he enters his sixth year as head coach will be on offense, where he must replace seven starters, including key positions such as quarterback, fullback and both wideouts.

The quarterbacks in the wings waiting to replace record-setting Bill Ransdell are Kevin Dooley and Bill Allen, both of whom played sparingly in 1986, and junior college transfer Glenn Fohr. Dooley saw considerable action in 1985. Replacing FB Marc Logan won't be an easy chore, either, so the brunt of the running burden will fall to returnee Ivy Joe Hunter, who rushed 103 times for 621 yards and six touchdowns last fall. Hunter ran for 238 yards — the third highest mark in KU history — against Vanderbilt in '86 and is a fine one. Mark Higgs will move into a starting slot. Last year he ran 109 times for 546 yards and five scores and is a fine receiver as well. Freshman Al Baker will also see valuable playing time, once he recovers from a knee injury.

TE Mark Wheeler moved into the starting spot last year because of injuries and will assume it again. The biggest question is at wide receiver, where it's anybody's guess as to whom

Feist's Factors

- Tennessee has won seven of its last eight openers by the points spread.
- The visitor is 9-4 ATS in the Auburn-Georgia Tech series.
- Georgia is 10-3 ATS in SEC openers in the last 13 seasons.
- Louisiana State is 5-2 ATS vs. Mississippi since 1973.
- Florida has beaten rival Florida State and the spread 8 straight years.
- The underdog has won 8 straight in the Alabama-Auburn series.
- Mississippi is just 1-5 ATS vs. Tennessee in Knoxville since 1973.
- Mississippi State has covered only 2-of-10 spread decisions in games following Florida since 1973.
- Kentucky is only 4-10 ATS vs. border rival Tennessee since 1973.
- Vanderbilt is a combined 13-27 ATS vs. SEC foes Georgia, Mississippi and Kentucky since 1973.

will start. Lettermen Tim Jones and Dee Smith will be pressured by several freshmen.

The offensive line returns starting OG's Dermontti Dawson and Brad Myers and OT Greg Kunkel should be the strength of the offense.

Seven starters are back on defense and should keep the Wildcats in plenty of games. Linemen Vic Adams, Carwell Gardner, Jerry Reese and John Shannon will be tough to run against and will provide plenty of pass rush. Adams was a terror in his freshman season in '86. LB's Chris Chenault and Jeff Kremer will hold down the middle. DB's David Johnson and Ron Robinson will man the deep lanes.

P's Jeff Nelson and Jay Tesar will again battle for the chores they split last year. PK Joe Worley returns to continue his assault on the UK record book.

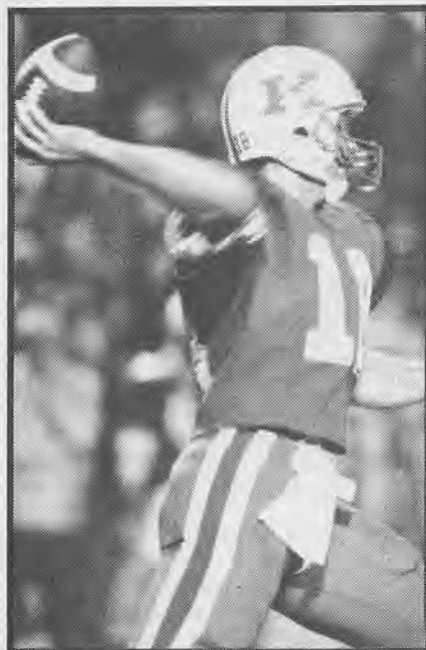
Vanderbilt

When Watson Brown became head coach at Vanderbilt a year ago, a 1-10 record in his first season was hardly what Commodore fans were expecting.

They are definitely expecting better results this year.

Brown returns eight starters on both offense and defense, but knows more than anything he has to improve the defense, which allowed 347 points and less than 22 points just once.

Vandy has changed from the even-front defense to an odd-man alignment to give opponents a different look on every play, much as the Commodores do on offense. Anchoring the defense is ILB Chris Gaines, an All-SEC candidate who led the school with 119 tackles in '86. His brother, Brad, will play outside. The secondary returns intact, with seniors Allan Roman and Andy Baker at cornerback and Joe Gentry and Torrey Price at safety.



Kentucky QB Kevin Dooley

Price and Roman led the team with two interceptions each last year, a figure that needs to improve.

Another big question mark is at quarterback, where junior Eric Jones, who finished '86 No. 1, is battling John Gromos, Tom Gray, Tim Richardson and Bernard Momborg for the position. Jones completed only 30-of-72 passes for 527 yards and was intercepted eight times and Richardson hit on only 49-of-114 passes. Both are fine runners, who rushed for 308 and 244 yards, respectively. Gromos, who started eight games as a freshman in 1985 and then was redshirted last year, is the best passer of the group.

Whoever wins the QB job will have a couple of talented receivers with which to work. All-SEC performer Carl Parker (31 catches for 422 yards and three scores) returns at flanker; sure-handed Boo Mitchell (31 for 463 yards and three touchdowns) is back at split end.

All-SEC candidate Everett Crawford is a double threat at tailback. He led the Commodores in receiving for the second straight year with 40 catches for 517 yards and two scores and ranked second on the team in rushing with 64 carries for 311 yards, a 4.9 average, and two more TD's. Sophs Andy McCarroll and Mark Johnson are battling to replace departed FB Carl Woods, Vanderbilt's second-leading career rusher.

All-SEC candidate Daryl Holt will anchor the offensive line from his C spot, while there is a lot of competition at other positions, even though starters return.

Despite a poor record in '86, Brown recruited an incoming freshman class that rates as one of the best in school history. Brown knows there is no substitute for talent. He's hoping some of the freshmen have some. ■

Southwest Conference

Predicted Finish

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 1. Texas A&M | 5. Texas Tech |
| 2. Arkansas | 6. Texas Christian |
| 3. Texas | 7. Houston |
| 4. Baylor | 8. Rice |

1986 Records

	Conf.	Overall
Texas A&M	7-1-0	9-3-0
Arkansas	6-2-0	9-3-0
Baylor	6-2-0	9-3-0
Texas Tech	5-3-0	7-5-0
SMU	5-3-0	6-5-0
Texas	4-4-0	5-6-0
Rice	2-6-0	4-7-0
Texas Christian	1-7-0	3-8-0
Houston	0-8-0	1-10-0

Texas A&M

The Aggies lost enough talent this year to make most coaches weep, but Jackie Sherrill has replenished his supply of blue-chip athletes with a couple of the nation's best recruiting classes the past two years. FB Roger

Vick, TE Rod Bernstine, QB Kevin Murray and OT Marshall Land are gone on offense, and DE Rod Saddler and LB's Johnny Holland, Todd Howard and Larry Kelm, among others, have departed from the defense. But the Aggies may still have enough players

left over to repeat as SWC champs.

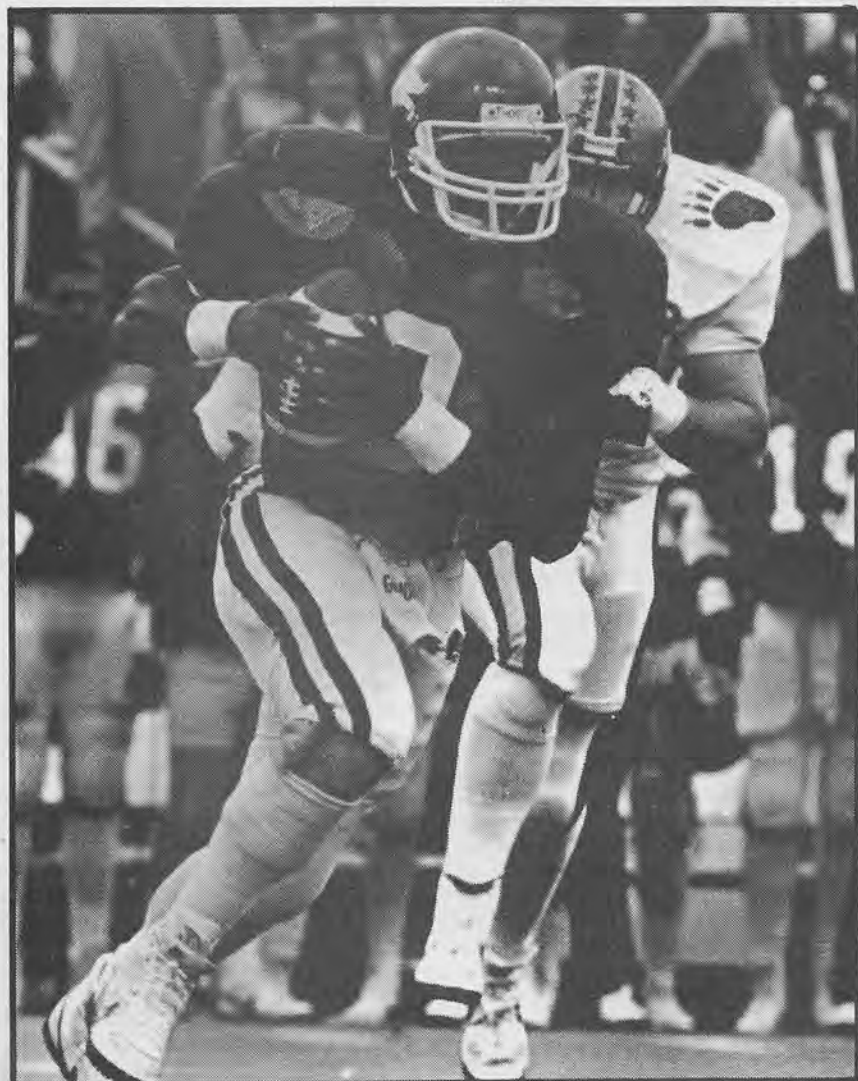
The offensive line is in great shape, with returning starters OLT Louis Cheek (6-6, 285), OLG Trace McGuire, C Matt Wilson and ORG Jerry Fontenot. Cheek, a first-team All-SWC pick, has been a starter for two years, during which time the Aggies have set back-to-back school total-offense records and led the league in the same category. Fontenot is expected to join Cheek on the All-Conference team this year.

RB Keith Woodside is one of the country's top dual threats. Last year, he rushed for 569 yards and averaged 5.9 yards per carry, in addition to catching 52 passes for 603 yards. FL Rod Harris had 21 receptions for 326 yards and a 15.5-yard average. Craig Stump should open the season at quarterback based on age and experience. The senior started eight games in 1984, when Murray was hurt, and he played sparingly last year. Waiting in the wings is redshirt freshman Lance Pavlas, a Parade All-America who was considered the best high-school quarterback in Texas.

NT Sammy O'Brien was first-team All-SWC in '86 and is considered a Lombardi and Outland trophy candidate, but he is the only returnee among the front seven, although junior Dana Batiste appears to be the next outstanding Aggie linebacker.

The secondary is well covered and should cover well, with returning starters FS Kip Corrington, SS Alex Morris and LCB Terrence "Chet" Brooks. Corrington's 93 tackles were third on last year's squad, he was All-SWC, honorable mention All-America and is a two-time Academic All-America. Corrington is the No. 1 student in A&M's liberal arts school, sporting a 3.97 grade-point average. He has received one grade lower than an A in his collegiate career — a B in literature.

Junior PK Scott Slater walked on last year and became the first kicker in



Arkansas' leading rusher QB Greg Thomas

the history of the SWC to score 100 points. He nailed 21-of-27 field-goal attempts (78 percent), hitting 16-of-16 inside 40 yards, and converted 37-of-38 PAT tries.

Arkansas

If Arkansas can find a fullback, a backup quarterback and reshape its offensive line, head coach Ken Hatfield expects to once again challenge for the SWC championship.

While the offense presents several problems, the defense is in great shape, with nine starters returning from a team that finished 9-3 and played in the Orange Bowl. The Razorbacks were 6-2 in the conference and have finished second in the SWC in each of Hatfield's three seasons.

This year, for the first time since returning to his alma mater, Hatfield must find a fullback for his flexbone offense. Those duties were divided between Marshall Foreman and Derrick Thomas last season, and both finished among the top 10 career rushers in Arkansas history. Third-team FB Kenn Massa also graduated leaving the Razorbacks with a total void there.

The top three FB candidates are freshman Greg Jackson and junior Richard Grooms, who both redshirted last year, and junior Anthony Chambers.

Last year's leading rusher was QB Greg Thomas (461 yards), the first quarterback to lead Arkansas in rushing since 1962. The 5-11, 196-pound junior rushed for eight TD's and led the SWC in passing efficiency with a 157.3 mark that would have ranked second nationally behind Vinny Testaverde, if Thomas had enough attempts to qualify. He hit 67-of-109 passes for 1,032 yards and six scores, while allowing just one interception. He has permitted just three interceptions in two years.

Although the school's all-time leading receiver, James Shibest, is gone, the top seven halfbacks from '86 return, including starters Joe Johnson (372 yards) and Sammy Van Dyke (244 yards). Even better news is the return of James Rouse, who, as a freshman two seasons ago, led the Razorbacks in rushing. Last year, the 6-1, 217-pounder suffered a broken leg in the second game and missed the remainder of the season. Donnie Centers, who averaged 28.1 yards on 10 catches a year ago, should take Shibest's place. Centers was also Arkansas' No. 1 kickoff returner, with a 25.4-yard average.

The right side of the offensive line is solid — and huge. C Bryan White (6-2, 287) played well as a junior, and backup Darrin Worrell is good enough that he may get a look at left guard. ORG Freddie Childress, who played at 340 pounds as a sophomore, still was a second-team All-America. Hopefully, he will play at about 320 in '87. OT Chris Bequette (6-2, 268) is a two-year



Arkansas' big-play NT Tony Cherico

starter.

The main cogs on defense are big-play specialist NT Tony Cherico, S Steve Atwater and CB Richard Brothers. Cherico was a second-team All-America and, for the second straight year, unanimous All-SWC pick. Atwater (6-4, 205) was the Razorbacks' second-leading tackler, intercepted four passes and broke up 12 others. Brothers, a junior, has 4.45 speed and had four interceptions last year. The emergence of Atwater and Brothers last season turned a questionable secondary into one of the team's strengths.

LB's Rickey Williams, who led the Hogs with 110 tackles last year, and Erik Whitted are both three-year lettermen and returning starters. OLB David Dudley is gone, but both of last year's top reserves, Steve Jones and Bubba Barrow, are back.

Junior DT Wayne Martin, who led the '86 squad with 10 tackles for loss, complements Cherico well, and Carl Bradford and Kerry Owens, who shared the DE spot, and DT David Schell, are all returning starters.

Junior PK Kendall Trainor did an exceptional job last year, hitting 10-of-13 field goals (77 percent), including 55-, 51- and 47-yard conversions. Trainor also nailed all 39 of his PAT attempts. Four-year P Greg Home is gone, and untested sophomore Allen Meacham looks like the logical successor, although Trainor is capable of handling double-duty.

Texas

After spending 15 years as an assistant to Darrell Royal and Fred

Akers and being named Southwest Conference Coach of the Year for guiding Texas Tech to a 7-4 mark last year, David McWilliams returns to his alma mater as head coach, following the firing of Akers, whose '86 team stumbled home with a 5-6 record. McWilliams, who captained the 1963 national championship Longhorn team, inherits a bear of a schedule that includes non-conference dates with Auburn, Oklahoma, Brigham Young and Oregon State.

McWilliams has plenty of talent and experience at skill positions, including an offensive backfield that returns intact, but a young offensive line. The Longhorns will rely more on the pass, hoping to establish that first and set up the run. Senior QB Bret Stafford has already set 12 Longhorn passing records and tied another. He completed 54 percent of his passes last season for 2,233 yards. His top two receivers from last season, TB Eric Metcalf and WR Gabriel Johnson, are back after combining for 72 receptions and 1,082 yards.

FB Darron Norris led Texas with 496 rushing yards, and Metcalf and Stafford were second and third, respectively, but the Longhorns averaged only 3.3 yards per running attempt in '86 and were outrushed by nearly 50 yards per game.

The offensive line is led by returning starters OG Paul Jetton and C's Alan Champagne and Carter Hill, but the remaining candidates are young and inexperienced. Thomas Aldridge (seven sacks) returns at defensive end, and Bobby Duncum has shifted from line-

backer to the other DE spot. Tackle is somewhat of a concern. Spring practice failed to uncover much talent or depth behind returning starter Steve Llewellyn and Ken Hackmack.

MLB Britt Hager returns after missing most of last season because of injury. Duane Duncum, who received valuable experience filling in for Hager and tied for second on the team in tackles, will shift to the weak side. Both safeties started last year and RCB James Lott was a starter in 1985.

Baylor

Baylor head coach Grant Teaff uses a fitting analogy to describe the task his team faces, after the success of last year's squad, which finished 9-3 (6-2 in the SWC, good for second place) and whipped Colorado in the Bluebonnet Bowl.

"Last fall we fired some of the best shots we've ever fired," says Teaff as he begins his 16th season in Waco. "Now we have lots of empty cartridges laying around. We've got to get ready for the next shootout, so the order of the day is to reload, then get ready to fight."

Reload indeed. Eighteen Bears fired their final shots in the victory over Colorado. The only positions where Teaff has any experienced players coming back are running back, receiver and kicking.

The first order of business is finding a replacement for QB Cody Carlson, who set a school record with 2,284 passing yards in '86. The favorite is sophomore Ed Lovell, who saw limited action last year backing up Carlson.

Last year's leading rusher, Jeffrey Murray (459 yards), returns, as does Charles Perry, who started six games. Matt Clark, last year's leading receiver (23 catches, 418 yards, 18.1-yard average), is back, along with speedsters Darnell Chase and John Simpson. Tight end is the least of Teaff's worries, with three-year starter Kobe Fornes and the top two reserves all returning.

Lombardi and Outland Award candidate Joel Porter is the only returnee on the offensive line, but he is a great player to build around. Eighteen players are in the running for the remaining four spots, any of whom could wind up at any OL spot. The only thing for certain is that this group is the strongest in school history. In addition to Porter, four of the candidates — Paul Stuart, Dennis Smith, Errol Ware and Jeff Palmer — bench-press over 500 pounds.

The defensive line also has just one starter back, DT Russell Sheffield, who tied for second on the team in tackles last year. But he missed spring drills with a broken ankle suffered in an offseason workout. Senior Henry Green and junior Vincent Carpenter have some experience.

Junior Eugene Hall and senior Keith

Rose played almost as much defensive end as the starters last year and should be more than adequate replacements this season.

Three four-year lettermen linebackers have graduated, and all three of last year's backups are sophomores, including James Francis, who is probably the best of the group.

The secondary situation is similar to that in the offensive line. The most experienced member of the group, Ray Crockett, started the last five games of '86 at cornerback. The other corner will be covered by Charles Bell or Norris Blount, last year's backups. The safeties are Mike Welch and Robert Blackmon, who played extensively as true freshmen last year.

Texas Tech

You might say Spike Dykes was born to coach Texas Tech. Forty-nine years ago, Dykes was born in the old St. Mary's Hospital, across the street from Texas Tech, while his parents were on a trip through Lubbock.

It took the defection of David McWilliams to Texas for Dykes to move up from defensive coordinator, but McWilliams left his successor with 51 returning lettermen, the most in the 62-year history of the Red Raider program. Seventeen starters are back from last year's 7-5 team that won five of its final six regular-season games before a 20-17 loss to Mississippi in the Independence Bowl, Dykes' debut.

But, while the majority of the players are familiar with the system, the coaching staff is not. The departure of McWilliams, and much of his staff, necessitated the hiring of seven new assistants, leaving only one position (defensive line) with the same assistant coach as last year.

Still, it's hard not to be optimistic about the Red Raiders.

"It's been a smooth transition, and our coaches have settled in with the players," Dykes said. "There will be no wholesale changes of philosophy or anything else. We will run out of the I-formation on offense and line up in a 4-3 on defense."

Nine starters are back from the offensive unit, players who were responsible for 3,509 of the team's 4,008 total yards in '86. RB's sophomore James Gray (628 yards, 5.7-yard average), junior Isaac Garnett (573 yards, 5.4-yard average) and junior Erwin Farris (541 yards, 4.5-yard average) all finished among the top six rushers in the SWC.

The future is just as bright at receiver. The top four pass catchers are all back, after accounting for 114 receptions, 1,539 yards and seven TD's last season. All are juniors, including Wayne Walker, who had six TD's and averaged 18.9 yards on 38 catches in '86. Walker also returns kickoffs and finished second in the SWC indoor 60-yard dash with a time of 6.2 seconds.

WR Tyrone Thurman, who had 18 catches, is the smallest player in college football at 5-3 and 130 pounds. He led Division I with 444 punt-return yards, took two back all the way and has averaged 13.5 yards per return for the past two years (fifth nationally in '86, sixth in '85).

With junior starter Billy Joe Tolliver and senior backup Aaron Keese returning, the QB spot is in good hands. Tolliver had the second-best passing season in school history last year with 1,602 yards, but he threw 13 interceptions and only four TD's.

The offensive line is anchored by bookend senior OG's Jeff Keith and Mike McBride (both 6-3, 270), who have started 46 games between them, 29 by Keith. Another returning starter is senior OT David Stickels.

DT's junior Desmond Royal (6-1, 265) and senior Artis Jackson (6-5, 295) are among six returning starters on defense. LB Michael Johnson was the Red Raiders' second-leading tackler last year, had eight tackles for loss, 5 1/2 sacks, forced three fumbles, recovered four fumbles, made second-team All-SWC and was SWC Defensive Player of the Week twice.

S Merv Scurlock was also second-team All-SWC, finished third on the Raiders in tackles and had three interceptions. Junior James Mosley is a small (6-1, 210) defensive end who came off the bench to win Defensive Player of the Game honors and set an Independence Bowl record with three sacks last season.

Texas Christian

"It was one of those crazy years we all had just as soon forget . . . as quickly as possible," says head coach Jim Wacker.

The Horned Frogs' 1986 season could almost be summed up in one word — sick.

Twenty-four regulars missed a total of 75 games nursing various illnesses, aches, pains and injuries. As a result, 46 different players were shuffled into the starting lineup, and the only full house was in the infirmary. Injuries forced the use of seven different backfield combinations, involving six different backs. In addition, senior defensive standouts NT Kent Tramel, DE David Spradlin and LB Floyd Terrell chose to redshirt in '86.

The results were good and bad.

On one hand, the Frogs' 3-8 record (1-7 in the SWC) was bad. The defense allowed 30 or more points in seven games and got progressively worse late in the season, losing its last three games 36-14 to Texas Tech, 45-16 to Texas and 74-10 to Texas A&M.

The good news is that because of the injuries, 56 lettermen are returning and 22 of them got some starting experience last year. In addition, 24 Frogs redshirted last year, including eight previous letter winners.

Although this is Wacker's fifth year

in Fort Worth, there will be some major changes. New defensive coordinator Rick Johnson is scrapping the 52 defense and installing the 43. In a more startling development, Wacker is making the most dramatic alteration from a pure veer offense in his 16-year collegiate head coaching career. The Frogs are actually experimenting with a newfangled idea called "drop-back passing," to supplement the veer running game.

No matter what TCU does on offense, though, it will rely heavily on senior Tony Jeffery, a three-year letterman. Because of injury, Jeffery played in only eight games in '86 but rushed for 861 yards, averaging 7.1 yards per attempt. In the season-opener against Tulane, Jeffery ran wild, rolling for 343 yards, including jaunts of 81, 67, 38, 34, 32, 27 and 25 yards. He scored five TD's, averaged 21.4 yards per try and had an NCAA record 270 yards in one half.

Jeffery should enjoy the luxury of running behind an offensive line that includes four returning starters, headed by seniors C Clint Hailey and OT Brian Brazil. Hailey (6-3, 260) transferred from Texas-Arlington when that school dropped its football program, and he stepped right into a starting role with the Frogs. In addition to his excellent play on the field, Hailey turned in grade point averages of 3.8 or better in back-to-back 16-hour semesters. His average grade on the field was 92 percent, second best on the squad.

"Clint Hailey is technically the finest center I've seen in 28 years of football," Wacker said.

Brazil (6-4, 276) graded higher last year (94 percent) than any Frog offensive lineman, including departed All-SWC pick WC Nix. Against Arkansas and Texas Tech, the three-year letterman graded a perfect 100.

The main man on defense is Tramel, who was called "the second most competitive athlete we have ever tested," by one NFL personnel director. The 6-3, 260-pounder sat out last year carefully mending his troublesome knees, running and lifting weights (he bench-presses over 400 pounds and squats 610). With one year to play, he has already been in on 315 tackles, despite being constantly double- and triple-teamed.

"About the only thing that could possibly make Kent Tramel a better football player would be a bionic arm," Wacker said.

Houston

The Cougars won just once in 1986, the final season in the 25-year head coaching career of Bill Yeoman, and with an offense that scored more than 14 points only once, that's all the wins they deserved.

Despite the memory of last year, Cougar backers are encouraged by the

explosive prospect of new head coach Jack Pardee's Run-and-Shoot offense. The former Florida Blazer (WFL), Washington Redskin, Chicago Bear and Houston Gambler (USFL) head coach has been voted Coach of the Year in all three professional leagues, but college coaching is a new experience for the former All-Pro line-backer.

Pardee inherits a defense that isn't too bad. Eight starters, including the top six tacklers, are back from a unit that was fifth in the SWC in total defense and third in defending the pass. If any of his players remind Pardee of himself, it is senior LB Gary McGuire.

For the past two seasons, McGuire has been Houston's biggest hitter this side of Glenn Davis. Last year he racked up the third-highest one-season total (163) of tackles in school history. That was eight more hits than he had in '85. In a narrow 10-3 loss to SMU, he accounted for 22 tackles two of them for losses and caused a fumble.

McGuire is joined by four other senior returnees. FS Robert Jones had a team-high four interceptions and was the No. 3 tackler, DE Derrick Hoskins was fourth in tackles, LB Robert Harper was second and SS Randy Thornton was fifth. The other returning starters are juniors NT Glenn Montgomery, DE David Bearden and CB Johnny Jackson.

Last year's inexperienced and ineffective offensive line contained a freshman, three sophomores and a junior. The on-the-job training they got last year should help, but now they must learn the nuances of the "Run-and-Shoot."

The direction of the new offense will be entrusted to either senior incumbent Mark Davis, who started five games, or hotshot junior-college transfer David Dacus.

There will be a host of fleet-footed targets to choose from. Senior WR Jet Brown led the Cougars with in receiving last year with 33 catches for 556 yards, a 16.9-yard average and five TD's. Also back is senior FL Dwayne LeBlanc who had 15 catches for 176 yards.

Last year's leading rusher, Sloan Hood (418 yards) is back, as is Vernell Ramsey (5.7 yards per carry) and third-leading rusher John Stankus (339 yards).

Rice

In his rookie year as athletic director and head football coach at Rice, Jerry Berndt led the Owls to a 4-7 record, their best mark in five years. But don't expect Berndt to get all excited about that. In 1981, he took over a program at Penn that had won one game in two years. After a 1-9 rebuilding year, the Quakers were 28-9-2 over the next four years, 23-4-1 in the Ivy League, winning or sharing

the league title each year.

If Berndt comes close to duplicating that performance at Rice, he may be sainted. He does have a fairly experienced offense to work with, however, as eight starters return.

A tolerable non-conference schedule, which includes Lamar, Indiana, LSU and Southwest Texas State, could help the Owls get off to a flying start before they play their first conference game against Texas at Austin.

Senior QB Mark Comalander (6-4, 210) completed 53 percent of his passes last year for 1,430 yards, and three of his top four receivers are back. Senior WR Keith Lewis, a three-year letterman, had 24 catches for 436 yards and an 18.2-yard average in '86, and junior Chris Nixon had 21 grabs for 451 yards, a whopping 21.5 yards per reception. FB Lorenzo Cyphers caught 20 passes and rushed for 231 yards. Senior John Davis, a three-year letterman, played behind Cyphers last year and still gained 297 yards. This year, the 5-11, 215-pounder moves to tailback.

Junior David Marberry (6-4, 265) and sophomore Karl Schraer (6-3, 265) are back at the guards, junior C Courtney Hall (6-2, 250) returns in the pivot and the elder statesman, senior and three-year letterman Russell Moses (6-2, 265), is back at tackle.

On defense, only DT Jeff Thomas is back from last year's front seven, but the secondary should be strong. A year ago, Thomas had 10 tackles for loss, including six QB sacks.

The secondary should be strong with junior CB William McClay, junior rover Roy Thompson and sophomore Everett Coleman. McClay intercepted four passes and defended seven others in '86, while finishing sixth on the squad in tackles. ■

Feist's Factors

■ Texas A&M is 9-2 ATS vs. TCU over the past 11 years, including a 74-10 win last year.

■ Arkansas is 10-4 ATS vs. Texas Tech, since 1973.

■ Texas is 8-2 ATS vs. TCU, since 1973.

■ Baylor is 12-6 as a Southwest Conference home underdog, since 1973.

■ The visitor is 8-3 ATS in the Texas Tech-Houston series, since 1973.

■ Texas Christian is 9-19 ATS vs. nonconference teams, since 1973.

■ The visitor is 10-3 ATS in the Houston-Rice rivalry, in the last 13 meetings.

■ Rice is 3-8 ATS vs. Texas, in the last 11 meetings.

Western Athletic Conference

Predicted Finish

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. BYU | 6. Wyoming |
| 2. San Diego St. | 7. New Mexico |
| 3. Air Force | 8. Utah |
| 4. Hawaii | 9. Texas-El Paso |
| 5. Colorado St. | |

1986 Records

	Conf.	Overall
San Diego State	7-1-0	8-4-0
Brigham Young	6-2-0	8-5-0
Air Force	5-2-0	6-5-0
Wyoming	4-4-0	6-6-0
Colorado State	4-4-0	6-5-0
Hawaii	4-4-0	7-5-0
New Mexico	2-5-0	4-8-0
Texas-El Paso	2-6-0	4-8-0
Utah	1-7-0	2-9-0

Brigham Young

For the first time since 1976, Brigham Young won't be defending a WAC title. Prior to last year's second-place finish (6-2, 8-5 overall), the Cougars had the winningest football program in the country for the past 10 years (.861).

Head coach LaVell Edwards hasn't had to use the word "rebuilding" in a long time, but this year he may be forced to. Eleven starters have departed, including Outland Trophy winner DT Jason Buck and honorable mention All-Americans DT Shawn Knight, FB Lakei Heimuli (1,003 yards) and WR Mark Bellini (46 catches, 839 yards), QB Steve Lindsley (63 percent completions, 2,247 passing yards), and another honorable mention All-American, junior TE Trevor Molini, who was expelled in April after his second arrest for altering drug prescriptions to obtain anabolic steroids.

Junior Bob Jensen started the final two games last season and has the edge in the QB race. His job will be made more difficult by the fact that the Cougars' top five receivers of '86 are no longer around, although senior WR Rich Zayas saw some action and senior SE David Miles started. Darren Handley should take over the TE duties after starting part-time in '86. He is the team's leading returning receiver, but he caught just 11 passes last season, though he averaged more than 16 yards per grab.

The running game also needs major transfusions of new blood, as the top three ground gainers of '86 have all graduated. Five sophomores are in the running, and the situation could be helped if Tom Tuipulotu can return from a knee injury that caused him to miss all of last season, after he was slated for the starting lineup. Tuipulotu's rehabilitation has been extremely slow, however, and he sat out spring drills in an effort to fully recuperate before the regular season.

Last year's youthful and inexperi-

enced offensive line struggled at times, but the learning process should make that unit one of the team's strongest this season. Four starters return, including C Brian Rodoni and OG John Borgia, a three-year letterman and All-WAC second-team choice.

Three-year letterman David Futrell (6-1 1/2, 265), a second-team All-WAC pick, is back at nose tackle, but he will sorely miss the presence of Buck and Knight at his sides. OLB-DL Steve Kaufusi probably will move to the line full-time. Linebacker should be a strong area in '87, with starting OLB's Thor Salanoa and Richard Hobbs back. Inside, Regan Hansen, J.C. VonColln and Andy Katoa, all have some starting experience.

The secondary will be built around All-WAC CB Rodney Thomas, a two-year starter. Junior Troy Long started several games at strong safety last year and will probably team with junior Scott Peterson who was a regular at weak safety.

Senior PK Leonard Chitty hit 76 percent of his FG attempts in '86 (16-of-21), including 7-of-7 between 40-49 yards. Junior P Pat Thompson (41.5-yard average) also returns, as does PR Mike O'Brien (8.8-yard average on 50 returns).

San Diego State

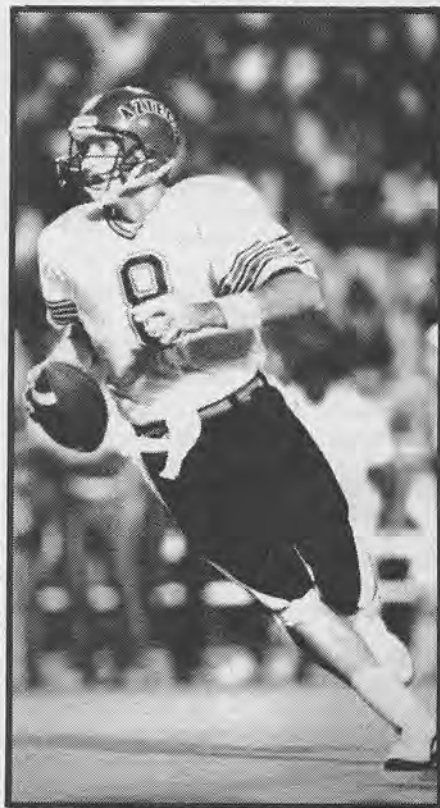
Before the '86 season began, Fresno State QB Kevin Sweeney and San Diego State QB Todd Santos worked out together near their hometowns which are only 20 miles apart. Before the '87 season is over, those two may stand as the top two career-passing yardage leaders in NCAA history. Sweeney finished his career last season, as No. 1, with 10,623 yards. But, if Santos averages 261 yards per game this year — he averaged 255 last year — he will supplant Sweeney at the top.

Santos' coach, Denny Stolz, also coached the NCAA's No. 3 career passing yardage QB, when he tutored Brian

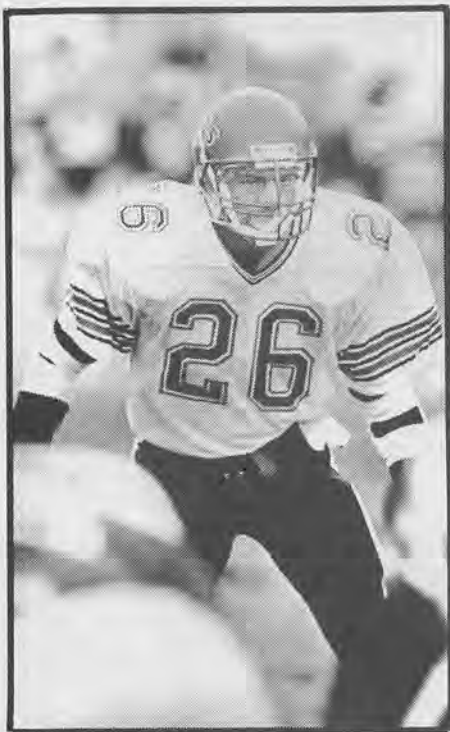
McClure at Bowling Green. Last year was Stolz's first at the Aztec helm, and he guided then to an 8-4 overall record and a first-place, 7-1 finish in the WAC.

But this year, Stolz has to replace 14 starters, including both wide receivers and standout TE Robert Awalt.

Only two wideouts on the '87 roster have caught a pass in a varsity game. The best of them, Alfred Jackson, was converted from cornerback last year and caught 18 passes for 256 yards and four TD's. But five promising junior-college players have been brought in, and Monty Gilbreath, who was a reserve last year, is back.



San Diego St. QB Todd Santos



S.D. St. DB Harold Hicks

Gilbreath caught just four passes in the regular season but grabbed five for 87 yards and a TD in the 39-38 Holiday Bowl loss to Iowa. Kerry Reed-Martin picked up valuable experience last year as Awalt's backup but had just five receptions.

The major concern this year is keeping Santos on his feet, something the Aztecs weren't overly proficient at last year, as the quarterback lost over 300 yards in sacks.

"We will reduce our yardage lost on sacks by hundreds and hundreds of yards this season," Stolz said.

On paper that may look like a problem area, since four of the five starters at the beginning of the '86 season are gone. But four of the five starters at the conclusion of the '86 season are back.

C Kevin Wells, who snapped every ball from scrimmage in '86, is back. Stolz thinks Wells and senior OT Dave DesRochers are serious candidates for postseason honors. DesRochers (6-7, 285), and fellow seniors OT Mike Knutson and OG Reggie Blaylock all were pressed into service last year when injuries sidelined starters, and all three performed admirably.

The RB situation is wide open, as the only experienced returnees, HB Ron Slack and FB Troy Reed, combined for just 15 carries last season. They will battle for starting spots along with junior-college imports Dan Holmes and LaMont Parks.

The secondary represents the strength of the Aztec defense. Three senior starters return, all of whom are

candidates for postseason honors. CB's Mario Mitchell and Clarence Nunn are the finest pair in the league as both begin their third season as starters. They combined to break up 19 passes last season. SS Harold Hicks broke up 10 passes in '86 and was the Aztecs' fifth-leading tackler.

The situation at linebacker could be better. Five of last year's top six players are gone, but six junior-college transfers should help fill the void.

Big-play DE Mike Hooper is the top returnee on the defensive line. Last year, he led the Aztecs with 10 tackles for loss and was second with 6 1/2 sacks. Senior Brett Faryniarz is a returning starter at end and Craig Skaggs was a part-time starter at tackle.

P Wayne Roos enters his fourth year as a starter. He has averaged better than 40 yards per kick each season and holds two of the top four season averages in SDSU history. He has not had a punt blocked in his collegiate career. PK Kevin Rahill came from the Aztec soccer team just eight days before the season opener in '86 and hit 26-of-27 PAT attempts and 12-of-17 FG tries.

Air Force

While LaVell Edwards may have a difficult rebuilding task at Brigham Young, it's nothing like the project Fisher DeBerry faces at the Air Force.

DeBerry welcomes back just two defensive and five offensive starters from a 6-5 team that finished third in the WAC at 5-2.

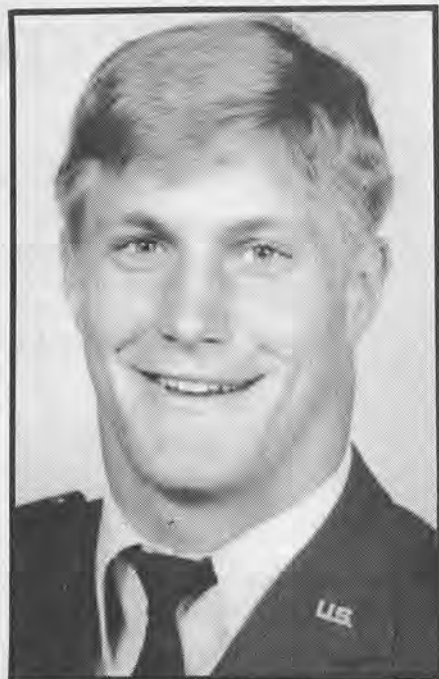
It's fortunate that one of the defensive holdovers is 6-5, 260-pound DT Chad Hennings, a serious All-America candidate and one of best football players ever at the Air Force. Last season, Hennings was an academic All-American, averaged over nine tackles per game and had 20 tackles for loss.

Hennings will get plenty of support from the other defensive returnee, NT John Steed, a 6-2, 225-pound senior who had 24 tackles behind the line of scrimmage in '86, good for 89 yards in losses.

The LB unit will suffer from the loss of standout ILB Terry Maki, who averaged just under 18 tackles a game. Rip Burgwald was Maki's understudy last year, and the 6-1, 223-pound senior is expected to make a smooth transition to inside starter, where he will join Derick Larson. There are several contenders for the OLB spots, but all of the candidates are seriously lacking in game experience.

Eric Faison, who played running back last season, is expected to start at one corner, and he, like the other members of the secondary, has limited game experience.

The offense has a fine returning nucleus, especially in the offensive line, where three starters — C Blake Gettys, OT Jeff Johnson and OG Greg



Air Force DT Chad Henning

Myers — return, along with TE Frank Martini. Gettys, a two-year letterman, is the line leader.

DeBerry says 5-10, 160-pound sophomore QB Dee Dowis, "Has the potential to be the finest wishbone quarterback we've ever had. He has the physical talents that you look for."

But Dowis still has to beat out last year's starter, senior Jimmy Tomallo, who rushed for 306 yards and averaged 19.8 yards on 24 pass completions.

Three of the Falcons' top four rushers of '86 are gone, but the potential for improvement is definitely there.

"Albert Booker and Greg Johnson have the potential to be two of the best running backs ever here," DeBerry said.

Booker, a 5-11, 180-pound junior, averaged 7.4 yards per carry in an injury-plagued '86 season that saw him carry the ball just 24 times. Johnson, a 6-2, 195-pound sophomore saw limited playing time last year but may push incumbent HB Frank Krause who averaged 5.4 yards on 33 carries in '86. Two-year letterman Quinton Roberts has the inside track to the starting FB spot.

Hawaii

The Rainbow Warriors may be one of the country's most interesting teams. New head coach Bob Wagner, the former defensive coordinator who took over the top job when Dick Tomey moved to Arizona, was a collegiate All-Midwest selection — in lacrosse. He has achieved some of his greatest coaching successes in track and field and swimming. His defenses ranked in the top 20 nationally in two of the last three years, despite competing in one of the nation's most offensive-minded conferences.

This year, Wagner is installing the

Run-and-Shoot offense, which will utilize slotbacks Marco Johnson, an All-America candidate, and Koldene Walsh. Johnson caught 38 passes for 520 yards last year and returned 28 punts for 290 yards. Inexperienced junior Walter Briggs is the leading QB candidate.

The offensive line is anchored by C Amosa Amosa and OT Mark Nua, a 6-7, 325-pound junior from New Zealand who didn't play in his first football game until 1985.

Only two starters are back on defense, but one of them, DT Al Noga is one of the favorites for the Outland and Lombardi trophies. Last year, "The Samoan Sackman" had 31 tackles for loss, including 17 sacks and was a first-team All-American and WAC Defensive Player of the Year.

Colorado State

The Rams enjoyed their finest season in nearly a decade and their first winning campaign since 1980. Head coach Leon Fuller finally got over the hump in his fifth year at CSU, finishing 6-5 overall and 4-4 in the WAC, good for a fourth-place tie.

Unfortunately, the other side of the hump could pose a dangerous descent. Eighteen players who started at one time or another are gone, including the two finest players in the history of the school — QB Kelly Stouffer and FB Steve Bartalo. Stouffer passed for 2,604 yards and Bartalo rushed for 1,419 last year.

The best of the few returnees are OT Doug Fiala and S Ron Cortell. Fiala is a former tight end who established himself as a major force last season despite missing five games with a minor knee injury. He returns completely healthy for '87. Cortell is a two-year starter who began his career as a cornerback and made second-team All-WAC last year. Although only 5-7 and 160 pounds, Cortell was No. 2 on the team with 109 tackles and five interceptions.

Stouffer set all the Ram passing and total offense records during his career, and the battle to succeed him is a wide open one. Junior-college transfers Scooter Molander and Brad Kofed will compete with junior Jim Pedersen, sophomore Scott Benglen and redshirt freshman Mike Gimenez.

Bartalo was Mr. Do Everything in the Ram one-RB set, and it may take more than one player to replace him. That's why Fuller has hinted at switching to a two-RB set this season. Junior Todd Richardson and redshirt freshman Todd Yert will fight over Bartalo's old spot, while Scott Whitehouse would probably be utilized in a two-RB formation.

WR Todd Tyrrell has already caught 84 passes going into his final season and Dewey Dorrough provides depth. Sanjay Beach and J.D. Brookhart should share time at flanker for the



Colorado State OT Doug Fiala

third straight season. Last year, Brookhart caught 27 passes for 581 yards (21.5-yard average). In addition to his 18 catches for 192 yards, Beach returned 16 kickoffs for a 22-yard average.

Fiala is joined on the line by OG Tod Eakes who started all but two games last year. But the Rams must replace two-time All-WAC performers at the other OG spot and at center. The other OT position will be decided among three inexperienced reserves.

On defense, last year's starting NT Clint Hjelm moves to DE and redshirt freshman Paul Hanks leads a list of NT candidates. DE Doug Wills started last year and recorded four sacks.

Pete Pavlakis started eight games last year, but he is the only returning linebacker who has started. The secondary isn't much more experienced, but, in addition to Cortell, LCB Ron Tesone was a part-time starter last season.

Wyoming

The head coach — Paul Roach — is new, but 42 lettermen, including 15 starters, will give the Cowboys a

familiar look in 1987. And even Roach is not new to Laramie. He was one of the offensive masterminds during the glory years of Cowboy football in the late 1960's, when he helped coach Wyoming to three consecutive WAC championships.

Before former Wyoming head coach Dennis Erickson headed off to Washington State in January, he had installed a new passing attack that was ranked No. 2 in the nation last year. And defensive coordinator Del Wright installed a scheme that produced the most dramatic defensive turnaround in the WAC. The result was a 6-6 overall mark that included a 4-4 WAC record and a tie for fourth place. Not bad for a team picked to finish eighth in the nine-team conference.

Nowhere is the situation better than in the offensive backfield. The top two tailbacks (Eric Coleman and Peter Gunn), fullbacks (Gerald Abraham and Steve Bena), top four quarterbacks (Craig Burnett, Scott Runyan, Randy Welniak and Brad Quiring) and No. 2 flanker (James Loving, 54 catches, 673 yards, six TD's) all return, so there shouldn't be many problems there.

Burnett, Runyan and Welniak each contributed game-winning performances, but Burnett is the one who put up the most impressive numbers in '86. The junior-college transfer threw for 1,242 yards and 13 TD's in just four games. The three quarterbacks totaled 3,481 yards in the air and 30 TD's.

There is also a great deal of experience and talent at receiver. Senior TE Bill Hoffman, a junior-college transfer last year, and WR's Eric Loftus and Anthony Sargent (47 catches, 655 yards, eight TD's), who was the WAC's Newcomer of the Year in '86, anchor the group.

The depth that is enjoyed in abundance in other areas of the offense is nonexistent on the line. The only two experienced members of the group — OT Steve Slay and C Shawn Wehrer — are both sophomores, but both started as freshmen, so they can be counted on to be much better this year.

Last year's defense was led by a standout group of linebackers, including returnees Scott Hanser, Garland Thaxton and Mike Schenbeck, who may all receive All-WAC consideration.

Two starters, DE Keith Jackson and DT Jeff Knapp return to the defensive line, while last year's understudies at the other two spots, DT Pat Rabold and DE Dave Edeen, each return as favorites to earn starting spots.

Several members of the secondary got valuable playing time last year because of injuries, and Wright thinks an extra year of experience in the system will aid all of them.

"We'll use more fronts and variations," Wright said, "but the system will be basically the same, and I think that will help."

New Mexico

Mike Sheppard, 35, takes over as head coach for Joe Dunn, whose 1986 team finished 4-8 overall and seventh in the WAC with a 2-5 record. The Lobos, despite their record, were anything but dull, setting five single-game and five single-season marks on offense. The offense churned out 469.5 yards per game, tops in the WAC and fourth in the nation.

Fourteen starters return, including All-WAC WR Terance Mathis, who caught 53 passes for 955 yards and a school-record 10 TD's last year, in addition to finishing 25th in the country in all-purpose yards per game (122.2). Mathis had 11 catches for 238 yards against Wyoming and 12 grabs for 188 yards vs. San Diego State.

You may be able to tell the players without a scorecard, but you might not be able to figure out their positions. Seven players will be performing at different positions than where they played last year. Senior DB Kenneth Whitehead moves to wide receiver, a position he played his first two years. ORG Brian McCabe moves to the defensive line, DT David Ziegler moves to tight end, DB Thomas Crum goes to quarterback, RB Devin Cooper is now a defensive back, C Charleston Fobbs switches to tight end and another DB, Phil Maloof, joins the QB contest.

Sheppard will be looking for replacements on special teams, as both PK's are gone, as is P Ron Keller who averaged 43.3 yards per boot last year.

Most of the offensive firepower has also departed, including FB Kevin Burgess (1,023 rushing yards, 5.7-yard average, 12 TD's) and QB's Ned James and Billy Rucker who completed over 57 percent of their passes for more than 2,800 yards.

The offensive line should be the team's strength and is expected to provide good protection for whoever winds up at quarterback. That battle will be fought among Crum, Maloof, senior Barry Garrison, junior-college transfers Ed Larson, Jonathan Mitchell and Myron Ashley and Wichita State transfer Jarrod Mendenhall, a sophomore.

The offensive line is so deep and experienced that McCabe's move to defense shouldn't hurt. Barry Luther (6-3, 243) and Scott Maney (6-2, 252) both started last year and are three-year lettermen, as are Terance Donaldson (6-3, 270) and David Lollie (6-4, 287). Sophomore Sam Taylor (6-3, 270) also lettered last year.

Utah

The Utes showed the ability to put punts on the board last year, but their defense was one of the country's worst.

Behind QB Larry Egger, who set almost every school passing and total offense record, Utah scored 27 or more



N. M. WR Terance Mathis

points six times. The defense, however, yielded 28 or more points in every game except one and allowed an average of just over 40 points per game. The result was a 2-9 record, including a 1-7 mark in the WAC, good for last place.

Well, the defense can't get much worse, but the offense can, and probably will, unless an able replacement is found for Egger. Two-time 1,000-yard rusher Eddie Johnson is back for his final season, after averaging 6.3 yards per carry in '86. Despite Johnson's heroics, Utah was outrushed by nearly 2-to-1 last year. And starting FB Bryan Bero (184 rushing yards, 130 receiving yards) is also back, but eight starters are gone.

Senior Chris Mendonca filled in briefly when Egger was hurt last year and should take over full-time this season. Four of last year's top yardage receivers are gone, although starting TE Curt Jones is back, and reserve WR Carl Harry had 21 catches for 312 yards.

The defense returns six starters, but, on a unit that allowed 252 rushing yards per game in a passing conference, that may not be such good news.

The top returnees are DE Tika Manu (six tackles for loss, three sacks) and senior SS Mike Jones, who missed most of '86 with an ankle injury and wound up redshirting.

Other returning defensive starters include: Last year's No. 2 tackler DL Bob Jenkins, LB Kevin Hawn and DB's Leo Austin and Clarence Fields.

Texas-El Paso

QB Rickey Garza, the trigger man of the nation's 10th most productive passing offense in '86, is gone, but most of his weapons are back. Senior WR's Harold Collins and Barry Parker combined for 79 catches, 1,280 yards and seven TD's last season. Junior TB John Harvey rushed for 878 yards, averaged 5.3 yards per carry and scored 11 TD's, caught 44 passes for 361 yards and four more scores and was an honorable mention All-American. His blocking back, Tommy Bonds, is gone, but Bonds' replacement, junior Eddie Dixon, broke many of Herschel Walker's high-school rushing records. Junior-college transfer QB Pat Hegarty is expected to take over the controls, but sophomore John Brazil was impressive in spring practice, and his running ability adds another dimension.

James Spady, Sean Kugler and Clint Riley are all returning starters on the offensive line. The defensive line welcomes back four starters: DT's Ross Puritty and Steve Griggs, NT Keith Lipscomb and DE Joe Terry. Sophomore LB Doug Morgan started only seven games last year, but was No. 2 in tackles with 140, including 83 solos. Richie Wright and Terry Walker return in the secondary. The Miners also return both kicking specialists, PK Hugo Castellanos and P Arnie Adkison, who will also start at tight end. ■



CSU FL J.D. Brookhart

1987 COLLEGE SCHEDULES

AIR FORCE

Sept. 5 at Wyoming
Sept. 12 Texas Christian
Sept. 19 San Diego State
Sept. 16 at Colorado State
Oct. 3 Utah
Oct. 10 at Navy
Oct. 17 Notre Dame
Oct. 24 Texas-El Paso
Oct. 31 at Brigham Young
Nov. 7 Army
Nov. 14 at New Mexico
Nov. 21 at Hawaii

AKRON

Sept. 5 at Western Michigan
Sept. 12 Kent State
Sept. 19 Eastern Michigan
Sept. 24 at Temple
Oct. 3 Eastern Illinois
Oct. 10 at Oregon State
Oct. 17 Delaware State
Oct. 24 at Louisville
Nov. 14 at Northern Illinois
Nov. 21 Youngstown State

ALABAMA

Sept. 5 S. Miss. (Birmingham)
Sept. 12 at Penn State
Sept. 19 Florida
Sept. 26 at Vanderbilt
Oct. 3 S.W. Louisiana
Oct. 10 at Memphis State
Oct. 17 Tennessee (Birmingham)
Oct. 31 Mississippi State
Nov. 7 at Louisiana State
Nov. 14 at Notre Dame
Nov. 28 Auburn (Birmingham)

ARIZONA

Sept. 12 Iowa
Sept. 19 New Mexico
Sept. 26 at UCLA
Oct. 3 Bowling Green
Oct. 10 at California
Oct. 17 Oregon State
Oct. 24 at Washington State
Oct. 31 at Stanford
Nov. 7 Washington
Nov. 14 at Southern Cal
Nov. 28 at Arizona State

ARIZONA STATE

Sept. 12 at Illinois
Sept. 19 Pacific
Sept. 26 Nebraska
Oct. 3 Texas-El Paso
Oct. 10 at Washington
Oct. 17 Washington State
Oct. 24 at Oregon State
Oct. 31 UCLA
Nov. 7 Oregon
Nov. 14 at California
Nov. 28 Arizona

ARKANSAS

Sept. 12 at Mississippi (Jackson)
Sept. 19 Tulsa
Sept. 26 Miami, Fla. (Little Rock)
Oct. 3 at Texas Christian
Oct. 10 at Texas Tech
Oct. 17 Texas (Little Rock)
Oct. 24 Houston
Oct. 31 at Rice
Nov. 7 Baylor
Nov. 14 at Texas A&M
Nov. 28 New Mexico (Little Rock)
Dec. 5 at Hawaii

ARMY

Sept. 12 Holy Cross
Sept. 19 at Kansas State
Sept. 26 Citadel
Oct. 3 Wake Forest
Oct. 10 at Boston College
Oct. 17 Colgate
Oct. 24 Rutgers
Oct. 31 Temple
Nov. 7 at Air Force
Nov. 14 Lafayette
Dec. 5 Navy (Philadelphia)

AUBURN

Sept. 5 Texas
Sept. 12 Kansas
Sept. 26 at Tennessee
Oct. 3 at North Carolina
Oct. 10 Vanderbilt
Oct. 17 at Georgia Tech
Oct. 24 Mississippi State
Oct. 31 Florida
Nov. 7 Florida State
Nov. 14 at Georgia
Nov. 28 at Alabama (Birmingham)

BALL STATE

Sept. 12 at Toledo
Sept. 19 Bowling Green
Sept. 26 at Wisconsin
Oct. 3 at Miami (Ohio)
Oct. 10 Kent State
Oct. 17 at Eastern Michigan
Oct. 24 Central Michigan
Oct. 31 Northern Illinois
Nov. 7 at Western Michigan
Nov. 14 Ohio U.
Nov. 21 Indiana State

BAYLOR

Sept. 5 Louisiana Tech
Sept. 12 at Missouri
Sept. 19 at Nevada-Las Vegas
Sept. 26 Texas Tech
Oct. 3 at Houston
Oct. 10 Southwest Texas State
Oct. 17 Texas A&M
Oct. 24 Texas Christian
Oct. 31 at Arkansas
Nov. 14 Rice
Nov. 21 at Texas

BOSTON COLLEGE

Sept. 5 Texas Christian
Sept. 12 Temple
Sept. 19 at Southern Cal
Sept. 26 Penn State
Oct. 3 at Pittsburgh
Oct. 10 Army
Oct. 17 at Rutgers
Oct. 24 West Virginia
Oct. 31 Tennessee
Nov. 7 at Notre Dame
Nov. 14 at Syracuse

BOWLING GREEN

Sept. 5 at Penn State
Sept. 12 Youngstown State
Sept. 19 at Ball State
Sept. 26 Western Michigan
Oct. 3 at Arizona
Oct. 10 at Ohio U.
Oct. 17 Toledo
Oct. 31 at Miami (Ohio)
Nov. 7 Kent State
Nov. 14 at Eastern Michigan
Nov. 21 Central Michigan

BRIGHAM YOUNG

Sept. 5 Pittsburgh
Sept. 12 at Texas
Sept. 19 at Texas Christian
Sept. 26 at New Mexico
Oct. 2 Utah State
Oct. 10 Wyoming
Oct. 17 at Hawaii
Oct. 24 Air Force
Oct. 31 San Diego State
Nov. 7 at Texas-El Paso
Nov. 14 Utah
Dec. 4 Colorado St. (Melbourne)

BROWN

Sept. 19 at Yale
Sept. 26 Rhode Island
Oct. 3 Princeton
Oct. 10 at Pennsylvania
Oct. 17 Cornell
Oct. 24 at Holy Cross
Oct. 31 Harvard
Nov. 7 at Lehigh
Nov. 14 at Dartmouth
Nov. 21 Columbia

CALIFORNIA

Sept. 5 Pacific
Sept. 12 San Jose State
Sept. 19 at Minnesota
Sept. 26 Southern Cal
Oct. 3 at Tennessee
Oct. 10 Arizona
Oct. 24 at UCLA
Oct. 31 at Oregon
Nov. 14 Arizona State
Nov. 21 at Stanford
Nov. 28 Washington (Tokyo)

CENTRAL MICHIGAN

Sept. 5 Miami (Ohio)
Sept. 12 at Idaho
Sept. 26 at Minnesota
Oct. 3 at Kent State
Oct. 10 Eastern Michigan
Oct. 17 Tulsa
Oct. 24 at Ball State
Oct. 31 Western Michigan
Nov. 7 at Ohio U.
Nov. 14 Toledo
Nov. 21 at Bowling Green

Pick the NFL winners! WIN up to \$100,000

Here it is! The 3rd Annual Football Challenge... the greatest gridiron contest ever for armchair quarterbacks! You call the plays! Simply pick straight-up winners (no pointspreads) and win \$500... \$1000... \$35,000, even \$100,000 in CASH! And this year, one entry fee entitles you to four great ways to win... Football Challenge!

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FIRST PLACE
SECOND PLACE
THIRD PLACE
FOURTH PLACE
FIFTH PLACE
Winners 6 to 65
Winners 65 to 1065

\$10,000 CASH!
\$5,000 CASH!
\$2,500 CASH!
\$1,000 CASH!
\$500 CASH!
\$100 CASH each
Certificates of Merit

Terrific! It's an unheard of chance for 130 armchair quarterbacks to cash in on 130 BIG cash prizes. Maybe the winner will be... YOU!

WEEKLY WINNERS!

The member who scores the highest number of points for an individual week WINS! There'll be 16 weekly winners at \$1000 each!

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PERFECTA! In football, that means... perfect. It also means four consecutive perfect weeks and you are in the money—\$50,000 worth of it—in cold, hard CASH!

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Sometimes it just pays to lose. In the Bomb-Out Bonus, even the cellar dwellers, those who rack up the five lowest halfway scores win! The very, very lowest score wins \$500! What a deal!



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Games of Skill, 20370 Rand Road, Palatine, IL 60074

NATIONAL WATS

800-331-6712
IN ILLINOIS
800-531-5428

CINCINNATI

Sept. 5 Rutgers
Sept. 12 at Louisville
Sept. 19 at Penn State
Sept. 26 Miami (Ohio)
Oct. 10 at East Carolina
Oct. 17 at West Virginia
Oct. 24 Miami (Fla.)
Oct. 31 Tennessee Tech
Nov. 7 at Indiana State
Nov. 14 Austin Peay
Nov. 21 at Virginia Tech

CLEMSON

Sept. 5 Western Carolina
Sept. 12 at Virginia Tech
Sept. 19 Georgia
Sept. 26 Georgia Tech
Oct. 3 Virginia
Oct. 10 Duke
Oct. 24 North Carolina State
Oct. 31 Wake Forest
Nov. 7 at North Carolina
Nov. 14 Maryland
Nov. 21 at South Carolina

COLGATE

Sept. 5 at Duke
Sept. 12 Bucknell
Sept. 19 William & Mary
Sept. 26 at Cornell
Oct. 3 at Holy Cross
Oct. 10 Lehigh
Oct. 17 at Army
Oct. 24 at Syracuse
Oct. 31 at Lafayette
Nov. 7 at Princeton
Nov. 14 Boston U.

COLORADO

Sept. 12 Oregon
Sept. 19 Stanford
Sept. 26 Washington State
Oct. 3 at Colorado State
Oct. 10 at Oklahoma State
Oct. 17 Kansas
Oct. 24 at Oklahoma
Oct. 31 at Iowa State
Nov. 7 Missouri
Nov. 14 Nebraska
Nov. 21 at Kansas State

COLORADO STATE

Sept. 5 at Tennessee
Sept. 12 at Texas Tech
Sept. 19 Texas-El Paso
Sept. 26 Air Force
Oct. 3 Colorado
Oct. 10 Utah
Oct. 24 New Mexico
Oct. 31 at Wyoming
Nov. 7 at Hawaii
Nov. 14 at San Diego State
Nov. 21 at S.W. Louisiana
Dec. 4 Brigham Young (Melbourne)

COLUMBIA

Sept. 19 Harvard
Sept. 26 at Lafayette
Oct. 3 Pennsylvania
Oct. 10 at Princeton
Oct. 17 Yale
Oct. 24 at Bucknell
Oct. 31 Lehigh
Nov. 7 Dartmouth
Nov. 14 at Cornell
Nov. 21 at Brown

CORNELL

Sept. 19 at Pennsylvania
Sept. 26 Colgate
Oct. 3 Lafayette
Oct. 10 Harvard
Oct. 17 at Brown
Oct. 24 Dartmouth
Oct. 31 Bucknell
Nov. 7 at Yale
Nov. 14 Columbia
Nov. 21 at Princeton

DARTMOUTH

Sept. 19 Princeton
Sept. 26 at New Hampshire
Oct. 3 Davidson
Oct. 10 Holy Cross
Oct. 17 at Harvard
Oct. 24 at Cornell
Oct. 31 Yale
Nov. 7 at Columbia
Nov. 14 Brown
Nov. 21 at Pennsylvania

DUKE

Sept. 5 Colgate
Sept. 12 Northwestern
Sept. 19 Vanderbilt
Sept. 26 at Virginia
Oct. 3 at Rutgers (E. Rutherford)
Oct. 10 at Clemson
Oct. 24 at Maryland
Oct. 31 Georgia Tech
Nov. 7 at Wake Forest
Nov. 14 North Carolina State
Nov. 21 at North Carolina

EAST CAROLINA

Sept. 5 at North Carolina State
Sept. 12 Florida State
Sept. 19 at Illinois
Sept. 26 Georgia Southern
Oct. 3 at West Virginia
Oct. 10 Cincinnati
Oct. 17 at Virginia Tech
Oct. 24 at South Carolina
Oct. 31 Miami (Fla.)
Nov. 7 Temple
Nov. 14 at Southern Mississippi

EASTERN MICHIGAN

Sept. 5 Youngstown State
Sept. 12 at Miami (Ohio)
Sept. 19 at Akron
Sept. 26 at Kent State
Oct. 3 Northern Illinois
Oct. 10 at Central Michigan
Oct. 17 Ball State
Oct. 24 at Western Michigan
Oct. 31 Ohio
Nov. 7 at Toledo
Nov. 14 Bowling Green

FLORIDA

Sept. 5 at Miami (Fla.)
Sept. 12 Tulsa
Sept. 19 at Alabama
Sept. 26 Mississippi State
Oct. 3 at Louisiana State
Oct. 10 Fullerton State
Oct. 17 Temple
Oct. 31 at Auburn
Nov. 7 Georgia (Jacksonville)
Nov. 14 Kentucky
Nov. 21 Florida State

FLORIDA STATE

Sept. 5 Texas Tech
Sept. 12 at East Carolina
Sept. 19 Memphis State
Sept. 26 at Michigan State
Oct. 3 Miami (Fla.)
Oct. 10 at Southern Mississippi
Oct. 17 Louisville
Oct. 31 Tulane
Nov. 7 at Auburn
Nov. 14 Furman
Nov. 21 at Florida

GEORGIA

Sept. 5 Virginia
Sept. 12 Oregon State
Sept. 19 at Clemson
Sept. 26 South Carolina
Oct. 3 at Mississippi
Oct. 10 Louisiana State
Oct. 17 at Vanderbilt
Oct. 24 Kentucky
Nov. 7 at Florida (Jacksonville)
Nov. 14 Auburn
Nov. 28 Georgia Tech

HAWAII

Sept. 5 Fullerton State
Sept. 12 at Wisconsin
Sept. 26 at Texas-El Paso
Oct. 3 Yale
Oct. 10 at New Mexico
Oct. 17 Utah
Oct. 24 Brigham Young
Oct. 31 San Diego State
Nov. 7 Colorado State
Nov. 14 Air Force
Nov. 28 Wyoming
Dec. 5 Arkansas

HOLY CROSS

Sept. 12 at Army
Sept. 19 Lafayette
Sept. 26 at Lehigh
Oct. 3 Colgate
Oct. 10 at Dartmouth
Oct. 17 at Bucknell
Oct. 24 Brown
Oct. 31 at Massachusetts
Nov. 7 Harvard
Nov. 14 William & Mary



Maryland's Chuck Faucette and Richie Petitbon

GEORGIA TECH

Sept. 12 Citadel
Sept. 19 North Carolina
Sept. 26 at Clemson
Oct. 3 at North Carolina State
Oct. 10 Indiana State
Oct. 17 Auburn
Oct. 24 at Tennessee
Oct. 31 at Duke
Nov. 7 Virginia
Nov. 21 Wake Forest
Nov. 28 Georgia

HOUSTON

Sept. 12 Oklahoma State
Sept. 26 Sam Houston
Oct. 3 Baylor
Oct. 10 at Texas A&M
Oct. 17 at Wyoming
Oct. 24 at Arkansas
Oct. 31 at Texas Christian
Nov. 7 Texas
Nov. 14 at Temple
Nov. 21 Texas Tech
Nov. 28 at Rice

HARVARD

Sept. 19 at Columbia
Sept. 26 Northeastern
Oct. 3 Bucknell
Oct. 10 at Cornell
Oct. 17 Dartmouth
Oct. 24 Princeton
Oct. 31 at Brown
Nov. 7 at Holy Cross
Nov. 14 Pennsylvania
Nov. 21 at Yale

ILLINOIS

Sept. 5 at North Carolina
Sept. 12 Arizona State
Sept. 19 East Carolina
Oct. 3 Ohio State
Oct. 10 at Purdue
Oct. 17 Wisconsin
Oct. 24 at Michigan State
Oct. 31 Minnesota
Nov. 7 at Indiana
Nov. 14 Michigan
Nov. 21 at Northwestern

INDIANA

Sept. 12 Rice
Sept. 19 at Kentucky
Sept. 26 Missouri
Oct. 3 Northwestern
Oct. 10 at Ohio State
Oct. 17 at Minnesota
Oct. 24 Michigan
Oct. 31 at Iowa
Nov. 7 Illinois
Nov. 14 at Michigan State
Nov. 21 Purdue

IOWA

Aug. 30 at Tenn. (E. Rutherford)
Sept. 12 at Arizona
Sept. 19 at Iowa State
Sept. 26 Kansas State
Oct. 3 Michigan State
Oct. 10 at Wisconsin
Oct. 17 at Michigan
Oct. 24 Purdue
Oct. 31 Indiana
Nov. 7 at Northwestern
Nov. 14 at Ohio State
Nov. 21 Minnesota

IOWA STATE

Sept. 12 at Tulsa
Sept. 19 Iowa
Sept. 26 at Wyoming
Oct. 3 Oklahoma
Oct. 10 Northern Iowa
Oct. 17 Missouri
Oct. 24 at Kansas
Oct. 31 Colorado
Nov. 7 at Nebraska
Nov. 14 Kansas State
Nov. 21 at Oklahoma State

KANSAS

Sept. 12 at Auburn
Sept. 19 Kent State
Sept. 26 Louisiana Tech
Oct. 3 Southern Illinois
Oct. 10 at Nebraska
Oct. 17 at Colorado
Oct. 24 Iowa State
Oct. 31 Oklahoma
Nov. 7 at Kansas State
Nov. 14 Oklahoma State
Nov. 21 at Missouri

KANSAS STATE

Sept. 5 Austin Peay
Sept. 19 Army
Sept. 26 at Iowa
Oct. 3 Tulsa
Oct. 10 at Missouri
Oct. 17 Oklahoma
Oct. 24 at Nebraska
Oct. 31 at Oklahoma State
Nov. 7 Kansas
Nov. 14 at Iowa State
Nov. 21 at Colorado

KENT STATE

Sept. 12 at Akron
Sept. 19 at Kansas
Sept. 26 Eastern Michigan
Oct. 3 Central Michigan
Oct. 10 at Ball State
Oct. 17 Western Michigan
Oct. 24 at Ohio U.
Oct. 31 Toledo
Nov. 7 at Bowling Green
Nov. 14 Miami (Ohio)
Oct. 21 at Pittsburgh

KENTUCKY

Sept. 12 Utah State
Sept. 19 Indiana
Sept. 26 at Rutgers (E. Rutherford)
Oct. 3 Ohio U.
Oct. 10 Mississippi
Oct. 17 at Iowa State
Oct. 24 at Georgia
Oct. 31 Virginia Tech
Nov. 7 at Vanderbilt
Nov. 14 at Florida
Nov. 21 Tennessee

LOUISVILLE

Sept. 5 Tulane
Sept. 12 Cincinnati
Sept. 19 at Purdue
Sept. 26 Murray State
Oct. 3 Southern Mississippi
Oct. 10 Marshall
Oct. 17 at Florida State
Oct. 24 Akron
Oct. 31 at Tulsa
Nov. 7 at Tennessee
Nov. 14 at Memphis State

LOUISIANA STATE

Sept. 5 at Texas A&M
Sept. 12 Fullerton State
Sept. 19 Rice
Sept. 26 Ohio State
Oct. 3 Florida
Oct. 10 at Georgia
Oct. 17 Kentucky
Oct. 31 at Mississippi (Jackson)
Nov. 7 Alabama
Nov. 14 Mississippi State
Nov. 21 at Tulane

MARYLAND

Sept. 5 at Syracuse
Sept. 12 Virginia
Sept. 19 West Virginia
Sept. 26 at North Carolina State
Oct. 10 at Miami (Fla.)
Oct. 17 at Wake Forest
Oct. 24 Duke
Oct. 31 North Carolina
Nov. 7 Penn State
Nov. 14 at Clemson
Nov. 21 at Vanderbilt

MEMPHIS STATE

Sept. 5 Mississippi
Sept. 12 at Vanderbilt
Sept. 19 at Florida State
Oct. 3 at Mississippi State
Oct. 10 Alabama
Oct. 17 Tulane
Oct. 24 Southern Mississippi
Oct. 31 Arkansas State
Nov. 7 at S.W. Louisiana
Nov. 14 Louisville
Nov. 21 at Tulsa

MIAMI (FLA.)

Sept. 5 Florida
Sept. 19 South Carolina
Sept. 26 at Arkansas (Little Rock)
Oct. 3 at Florida State
Oct. 10 Maryland
Oct. 24 at Cincinnati
Oct. 31 at East Carolina
Nov. 7 Miami (Ohio)
Nov. 14 Virginia Tech
Nov. 21 Toledo
Nov. 28 Notre Dame

MIAMI (OHIO)

Sept. 5 at Central Michigan
Sept. 12 Eastern Michigan
Sept. 19 at Syracuse
Sept. 26 at Cincinnati
Oct. 3 Ball State
Oct. 10 at Western Michigan
Oct. 17 Ohio U.
Oct. 24 at Toledo
Oct. 31 Bowling Green
Nov. 7 at Miami (Fla.)
Nov. 14 at Kent State

MICHIGAN

Sept. 12 Notre Dame
Sept. 19 Washington State
Sept. 26 Long Beach State
Oct. 3 Wisconsin
Oct. 10 at Michigan State
Oct. 17 Iowa
Oct. 24 at Indiana
Oct. 31 Northwestern
Nov. 7 at Minnesota
Nov. 14 at Illinois
Nov. 21 Ohio State

MICHIGAN STATE

Sept. 7 Southern Cal
Sept. 19 at Notre Dame
Sept. 26 Florida State
Oct. 3 at Iowa
Oct. 10 Michigan
Oct. 17 at Northwestern
Oct. 24 Illinois
Oct. 31 at Ohio State
Nov. 7 Purdue
Nov. 14 Indiana
Nov. 21 at Wisconsin

MINNESOTA

Sept. 12 Northern Iowa
Sept. 19 California
Sept. 26 Central Michigan
Oct. 3 Purdue
Oct. 10 at Northwestern
Oct. 17 Indiana
Oct. 24 at Ohio State
Oct. 31 at Illinois
Nov. 7 Michigan
Nov. 14 Wisconsin
Nov. 21 at Iowa

MISSISSIPPI

Sept. 5 at Memphis State
Sept. 12 Arkansas (Jackson)
Sept. 19 Arkansas State
Sept. 26 at Tulsa
Oct. 3 Georgia
Oct. 10 at Kentucky
Oct. 17 Southwest Louisiana
Oct. 24 Vanderbilt
Oct. 31 Louisiana State (Jackson)
Nov. 14 at Tennessee
Nov. 21 at Miss. State (Jackson)

MISSISSIPPI STATE

Sept. 5 Southwest Louisiana
Sept. 12 Tennessee
Sept. 19 Louisiana Tech
Sept. 26 at Florida
Oct. 3 Memphis State
Oct. 17 at Southern Miss. (Jackson)
Oct. 24 at Auburn
Oct. 31 at Alabama (Birmingham)
Nov. 7 Tulane
Nov. 14 at Louisiana State
Nov. 21 Mississippi (Jackson)

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MISSOURI

Sept. 12 Baylor
Sept. 19 Northwestern
Sept. 26 at Indiana
Oct. 3 Syracuse
Oct. 10 Kansas State
Oct. 17 at Iowa State
Oct. 24 Oklahoma State
Oct. 31 Nebraska
Nov. 7 at Colorado
Nov. 14 at Oklahoma
Nov. 21 Kansas

NORTHERN ILLINOIS

Sept. 12 Lamar
Sept. 19 at Western Michigan
Sept. 26 at Northwestern
Oct. 3 at Eastern Michigan
Oct. 10 Toledo
Oct. 17 Southwest Missouri State
Oct. 24 Fullerton State
Oct. 31 at Ball State
Nov. 7 Western Illinois
Nov. 14 Akron
Nov. 28 at Nevada-Las Vegas

OHIO STATE

Sept. 12 West Virginia
Sept. 19 Oregon
Sept. 26 at Louisiana State
Oct. 3 at Illinois
Oct. 10 Indiana
Oct. 17 at Purdue
Oct. 24 Minnesota
Oct. 31 Michigan State
Nov. 7 at Wisconsin
Nov. 14 Iowa
Nov. at Michigan

OREGON STATE

Sept. 12 at Georgia
Sept. 19 San Jose State
Sept. 26 at Texas
Oct. 3 at Southern Cal
Oct. 10 Akron
Oct. 17 at Arizona
Oct. 24 Arizona State
Oct. 31 at Washington
Nov. 7 UCLA
Nov. 14 Stanford
Nov. 21 at Oregon

NAVY

Sept. 12 William & Mary
Sept. 19 Lehigh
Sept. 26 North Carolina
Oct. 3 at Virginia Tech
Oct. 10 Air Force
Oct. 17 at Pennsylvania
Oct. 24 Pittsburgh
Oct. 31 at Notre Dame
Nov. 7 Syracuse
Nov. 14 at Delaware
Dec. 5 at Army (Philadelphia)

NEBRASKA

Sept. 5 Utah State
Sept. 12 UCLA
Sept. 26 at Arizona State
Oct. 3 South Carolina
Oct. 10 Kansas
Oct. 17 at Oklahoma State
Oct. 24 Kansas State
Oct. 31 at Missouri
Nov. 7 Iowa State
Nov. 14 at Colorado
Nov. 21 Oklahoma



Penn State RB Blair Thomas

PENN STATE

Sept. 5 Bowling Green
Sept. 12 Alabama
Sept. 19 Cincinnati
Sept. 26 at Boston College
Oct. 3 Temple
Oct. 10 Rutgers
Oct. 17 at Syracuse
Oct. 31 West Virginia
Nov. 7 at Maryland
Nov. 14 at Pittsburgh
Nov. Notre Dame

PENNSYLVANIA

Sept. 19 Cornell
Sept. 26 at Bucknell
Oct. 3 at Columbia
Oct. 10 Brown
Oct. 17 Navy
Oct. 24 at Yale
Oct. 31 Princeton
Nov. 7 at Lafayette
Nov. 14 at Harvard
Nov. 21 Dartmouth

NEW MEXICO

Sept. 5 at Utah
Sept. 12 at New Mexico State
Sept. 19 at Arizona
Sept. 26 Brigham Young
Oct. 10 Hawaii
Oct. 24 at Colorado State
Oct. 31 at Texas-El Paso
Nov. 7 Wyoming
Nov. 14 Air Force
Nov. 21 at San Diego State
Nov. 28 at Arkansas (Little Rock)

NORTHWESTERN

Sept. 12 at Duke
Sept. 19 at Missouri
Sept. 26 Northern Illinois
Oct. 3 at Indiana
Oct. 10 Minnesota
Oct. 17 Michigan State
Oct. 24 at Wisconsin
Oct. 31 at Michigan
Nov. 7 Iowa
Nov. 14 at Purdue
Nov. 21 Illinois

OKLAHOMA

Sept. 5 North Texas State
Sept. 12 North Carolina
Sept. 26 at Tulsa
Oct. 3 at Iowa State
Oct. 10 at Texas (Dallas)
Oct. 17 at Kansas State
Oct. 24 Colorado
Oct. 31 at Kansas
Nov. 7 Oklahoma State
Nov. 14 Missouri
Nov. 21 at Nebraska

PITTSBURGH

Sept. 5 at Brigham Young
Sept. 12 North Carolina State
Sept. 19 Temple
Sept. 26 at West Virginia
Oct. 3 Boston College
Oct. 10 Notre Dame
Oct. 24 at Navy
Oct. 31 Syracuse
Nov. 7 at Rutgers (E. Rutherford)
Nov. 14 Penn State
Nov. 21 Kent State

NORTH CAROLINA

Sept. 5 Illinois
Sept. 12 at Oklahoma
Sept. 19 at Georgia Tech
Sept. 26 at Navy
Oct. 3 Auburn
Oct. 10 Wake Forest
Oct. 17 at North Carolina State
Oct. 31 at Maryland
Nov. 7 Clemson
Nov. 14 at Virginia
Nov. 21 Duke

NOTRE DAME

Sept. 12 at Michigan
Sept. 19 Michigan State
Sept. 26 at Purdue
Oct. 10 at Pittsburgh
Oct. 17 at Air Force
Oct. 24 Southern Cal
Oct. 31 Navy
Nov. 7 Boston College
Nov. 14 Alabama
Nov. 21 at Penn State
Nov. 21 at Miami (Fla.)

OKLAHOMA STATE

Sept. 5 Tulsa
Sept. 12 at Houston
Sept. 19 at Wyoming
Sept. 26 Southwest Louisiana
Oct. 10 Colorado
Oct. 17 Nebraska
Oct. 24 at Missouri
Oct. 31 Kansas State
Nov. 7 at Oklahoma
Nov. 14 at Kansas
Nov. 21 Iowa State

PRINCETON

Sept. 19 at Dartmouth
Sept. 26 at Davidson
Oct. 3 at Brown
Oct. 10 Columbia
Oct. 17 Lehigh
Oct. 24 at Harvard
Oct. 31 at Pennsylvania
Nov. 7 Colgate
Nov. 14 Yale
Nov. 21 Cornell

N. CAROLINA STATE

Sept. 5 East Carolina
Sept. 12 at Pittsburgh
Sept. 19 at Wake Forest
Sept. 26 Maryland
Oct. 3 Georgia Tech
Oct. 17 North Carolina
Oct. 24 at Clemson
Oct. 31 at South Carolina
Nov. 7 East Tennessee State
Nov. 14 at Duke
Nov. 21 Virginia

OHIO

Sept. 5 West Virginia
Sept. 12 Marshall
Sept. 19 at Toledo
Oct. 3 at Kentucky
Oct. 10 Bowling Green
Oct. 17 at Miami (Ohio)
Oct. 24 Kent State
Oct. 31 at Eastern Michigan
Nov. 7 Central Michigan
Nov. 14 at Ball State
Nov. 21 Western Michigan

OREGON

Sept. 12 at Colorado
Sept. 19 at Ohio State
Sept. 26 San Diego State
Oct. 3 Washington
Oct. 10 Southern Cal
Oct. 17 at UCLA
Oct. 24 at Stanford
Oct. 31 California
Nov. 7 at Arizona State
Nov. 14 at Washington State
Nov. 21 Oregon State

PURDUE

Sept. 12 at Washington
Sept. 19 Louisville
Sept. 26 Notre Dame
Oct. 3 at Minnesota
Oct. 10 Illinois
Oct. 17 Ohio State
Oct. 24 at Iowa
Oct. 31 Wisconsin
Nov. 7 at Michigan State
Nov. 14 Northwestern
Nov. 21 at Indiana

RICE

Sept. 5 Lamar
Sept. 12 at Indiana
Sept. 19 at Louisiana State
Sept. 26 Southwest Louisiana
Oct. 3 at Texas
Oct. 10 Texas Christian
Oct. 17 at Texas Tech
Oct. 24 Texas A&M
Oct. 31 Arkansas
Nov. 14 at Baylor
Nov. 28 Houston

RUTGERS

Sept. 5 at Cincinnati
Sept. 12 Syracuse
Sept. 26 Kentucky (E. Rutherford)
Oct. 3 Duke (E. Rutherford)
Oct. 10 at Penn State
Oct. 17 Boston College
Oct. 24 at Army
Oct. 31 at Vanderbilt
Nov. 7 Pittsburgh (E. Rutherford)
Nov. 14 at West Virginia
Nov. 21 at Temple

SAN DIEGO STATE

Sept. 5 at UCLA
Sept. 12 Utah
Sept. 19 at Air Force
Sept. 26 at Oregon
Oct. 3 at Wyoming
Oct. 10 Texas-El Paso
Oct. 17 Stanford
Oct. 24 Long Beach State
Oct. 31 at Hawaii
Nov. 7 at Brigham Young
Nov. 14 Colorado State
Nov. 21 New Mexico

SOUTH CAROLINA

Sept. 5 Appalachian State
Sept. 12 Western Carolina
Sept. 19 at Miami (Fla.)
Sept. 26 at Georgia
Oct. 3 at Nebraska
Oct. 10 Virginia Tech
Oct. 17 Virginia
Oct. 24 East Carolina
Oct. 31 North Carolina State
Nov. 14 at Wake Forest
Nov. 21 Clemson

SOUTHERN CAL

Sept. 7 at Michigan State
Sept. 19 Boston College
Sept. 26 at California
Oct. 3 Oregon State
Oct. 10 at Oregon
Oct. 17 at Washington
Oct. 24 at Notre Dame
Oct. 31 Washington State
Nov. 7 Stanford
Nov. 14 Arizona
Nov. 21 UCLA

S.W. LOUISIANA

Sept. 5 at Mississippi State
Sept. 12 Nevada-Las Vegas
Sept. 26 at Oklahoma State
Oct. 3 at Alabama
Oct. 10 Northwestern State (La.)
Oct. 17 at Mississippi
Oct. 24 at Northeast Louisiana
Oct. 31 Southern Mississippi
Nov. 7 Memphis State
Nov. 14 at Tulane
Nov. 21 Colorado State

STANFORD

Sept. 5 at Washington
Sept. 19 at Colorado
Sept. 26 San Jose State
Oct. 3 UCLA
Oct. 10 at Washington State
Oct. 17 at San Diego State
Oct. 24 Oregon
Oct. 31 Arizona
Nov. 7 at Southern Cal
Nov. 14 at Oregon State
Nov. 21 California

TEMPLE

Sept. 5 at Toledo
Sept. 12 at Boston College
Sept. 19 at Pittsburgh
Sept. 24 Akron
Oct. 3 at Penn State
Oct. 10 Tulsa
Oct. 17 at Florida
Oct. 31 at Army
Nov. 7 at East Carolina
Nov. 14 Houston
Nov. 21 Rutgers

TENNESSEE

Aug. 30 Iowa (East Rutherford)
Sept. 5 Colorado State
Sept. 12 at Mississippi State
Sept. 26 Auburn
Oct. 3 California
Oct. 17 at Alabama (Birmingham)
Oct. 24 Georgia Tech
Oct. 31 at Boston College
Nov. 7 Louisville
Nov. 14 Mississippi
Nov. 21 at Kentucky
Nov. 28 Vanderbilt

SOUTHERN MISS.

Sept. 5 at Alabama (Birmingham)
Sept. 19 Tulane
Sept. 26 Texas A&M (Jackson)
Oct. 3 at Louisville
Oct. 10 Florida State
Oct. 17 Mississippi State (Jackson)
Oct. 24 at Memphis State
Oct. 31 at Southwest Louisiana
Nov. 7 Northeast Louisiana
Nov. 14 East Carolina

SYRACUSE

Sept. 5 Maryland
Sept. 12 at Rutgers
Sept. 19 Miami (Ohio)
Sept. 26 at Virginia Tech
Oct. 3 at Missouri
Oct. 17 Penn State
Oct. 24 Colgate
Oct. 31 at Pittsburgh
Nov. 7 at Navy
Nov. 14 Boston College
Nov. 21 West Virginia

TEXAS

Sept. 5 at Auburn
Sept. 12 Bringham Young
Sept. 26 Oregon State
Oct. 3 Rice
Oct. 10 Oklahoma (Dallas)
Oct. 17 at Arkansas (Little Rock)
Oct. 31 Texas Tech
Nov. 7 at Houston
Nov. 14 Texas Christian
Nov. 21 Baylor
Nov. 26 at Texas A&M

PM SPORTS

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64 % Overall Pro and College

24-6 Gold Star Plays

72 % NFL Playoffs

82 % College Bowl Games

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TEXAS A&M

Sept. 5 Louisiana State
 Sept. 19 Washington
 Sept. 26 at Southern Miss. (Jackson)
 Oct. 3 at Texas Tech
 Oct. 10 Houston
 Oct. 17 at Baylor
 Oct. 24 at Rice
 Oct. 31 Louisiana Tech
 Nov. 14 Arkansas
 Nov. 21 at Texas Christian
 Nov. 26 Texas

TOLEDO

Sept. 5 Temple
 Sept. 12 Ball State
 Sept. 19 Ohio U.
 Oct. 3 at Western Michigan
 Oct. 10 at Northern Illinois
 Oct. 17 at Bowling Green
 Oct. 24 Miami (Ohio)
 Oct. 31 at Kent State
 Nov. 7 Eastern Michigan
 Nov. 14 at Central Michigan
 Nov. 21 at Miami (Fla.)

UTAH

Sept. 5 New Mexico
 Sept. 12 at San Diego State
 Sept. 19 at Wisconsin
 Sept. 26 Idaho State
 Oct. 3 at Air Force
 Oct. 10 at Colorado State
 Oct. 17 at Hawaii
 Oct. 24 Utah State
 Oct. 31 at Boise State
 Nov. 7 Texas-El Paso
 Nov. 14 Wyoming
 Nov. 21 at Brigham Young

WASHINGTON ST.

Sept. 5 Fresno State
 Sept. 12 Wyoming
 Sept. 19 at Michigan
 Sept. 26 at Colorado
 Oct. 10 Stanford
 Oct. 17 at Arizona State
 Oct. 24 Arizona
 Oct. 31 at Southern Cal
 Nov. 14 Oregon
 Nov. 21 at Washington
 Nov. 28 at California (Tokyo)

TEXAS CHRISTIAN

Sept. 5 at Boston College
 Sept. 12 at Air Force
 Sept. 19 Brigham Young
 Oct. 3 Arkansas
 Oct. 10 at Rice
 Oct. 17 New Texas State
 Oct. 24 at Baylor
 Oct. 31 Houston
 Nov. 7 at Texas Tech
 Nov. 14 at Texas
 Nov. 21 Texas A&M

TULANE

Sept. 5 at Louisville
 Sept. 12 Iowa State
 Sept. 19 at Southern Mississippi
 Sept. 26 Mississippi
 Oct. 3 Vanderbilt
 Oct. 17 at Memphis State
 Oct. 24 Virginia Tech
 Oct. 31 at Florida State
 Nov. 7 at Mississippi State
 Nov. 14 Southwest Louisiana
 Nov. 21 Louisiana State

VANDERBILT

Sept. 12 Memphis State
 Sept. 19 at Duke
 Sept. 26 Alabama
 Oct. 3 at Tulane
 Oct. 10 at Auburn
 Oct. 17 Georgia
 Oct. 24 at Mississippi
 Oct. 31 Rutgers
 Nov. 7 Kentucky
 Nov. 21 Maryland
 Nov. 28 at Tennessee

WESTERN MICHIGAN

Sept. 5 Akron
 Sept. 12 at Illinois State
 Sept. 19 Northern Illinois
 Sept. 26 at Bowling Green
 Oct. 3 Toledo
 Oct. 10 Miami (Ohio)
 Oct. 17 at Kent State
 Oct. 24 Eastern Michigan
 Oct. 31 at Central Michigan
 Nov. 7 Ball State
 Nov. 21 at Ohio U.



Alabama RB Bobby Humphrey

VIRGINIA

Sept. 5 at Georgia
 Sept. 12 at Maryland
 Sept. 19 Virginia Tech
 Sept. 26 Duke
 Oct. 3 V.M.I.
 Oct. 10 at Clemson
 Oct. 17 at South Carolina
 Oct. 24 Wake Forest
 Nov. 7 at Georgia Tech
 Nov. 14 North Carolina
 Nov. 21 at North Carolina State

WEST VIRGINIA

Sept. 5 Ohio U.
 Sept. 12 at Ohio State
 Sept. 19 at Maryland
 Sept. 26 Pittsburgh
 Oct. 3 East Carolina
 Oct. 17 Cincinnati
 Oct. 24 at Boston College
 Oct. 31 at Penn State
 Nov. 7 Virginia Tech
 Nov. 14 Rutgers
 Nov. 21 at Syracuse

VIRGINIA TECH

Sept. 12 Clemson
 Sept. 19 at Virginia
 Sept. 26 Syracuse
 Oct. 3 Navy
 Oct. 10 at South Carolina
 Oct. 17 East Carolina
 Oct. 24 at Tulane
 Oct. 31 at Kentucky
 Nov. 7 at West Virginia
 Nov. 14 at Miami (Fla.)
 Nov. 21 Cincinnati

WISCONSIN

Sept. 12 Hawaii
 Sept. 19 Utah
 Sept. 26 Ball State
 Oct. 3 at Michigan
 Oct. 10 Iowa
 Oct. 17 at Illinois
 Oct. 24 Northwestern
 Oct. 31 at Purdue
 Nov. 7 Ohio State
 Nov. 14 at Minnesota
 Nov. 21 Michigan State

TEXAS-EL PASO

Sept. 5 New Mexico State
 Sept. 19 at Colorado State
 Sept. 26 Hawaii
 Oct. 3 at Arizona State
 Oct. 10 at San Diego State
 Oct. 17 Lamar
 Oct. 24 at Air Force
 Oct. 31 New Mexico
 Nov. 7 at Utah
 Nov. 14 Brigham Young
 Nov. 21 Wyoming

TULSA

Sept. 5 at Oklahoma State
 Sept. 12 at Florida
 Sept. 19 at Arkansas
 Sept. 26 Oklahoma
 Oct. 3 at Kansas State
 Oct. 10 at Temple
 Oct. 17 at Central Michigan
 Oct. 24 at Texas Tech
 Oct. 31 Louisville
 Nov. 7 Northern Arizona
 Nov. 21 Memphis State

WAKE FOREST

Sept. 12 Richmond
 Sept. 19 North Carolina State
 Sept. 26 Appalachian State
 Oct. 3 at Army
 Oct. 10 at North Carolina
 Oct. 17 Maryland
 Oct. 24 at Virginia
 Oct. 31 at Clemson
 Nov. 7 Duke
 Nov. 14 South Carolina
 Nov. 21 at Georgia Tech

WYOMING

Sept. 5 Air Force
 Sept. 12 at Washington State
 Sept. 19 Oklahoma State
 Sept. 26 Iowa State
 Oct. 3 San Diego State
 Oct. 10 at Brigham Young
 Oct. 17 Houston
 Oct. 31 Colorado State
 Nov. 7 at New Mexico
 Nov. 14 at Utah
 Nov. 21 at Texas-El Paso
 Nov. 28 at Hawaii

TEXAS TECH

Sept. 5 at Florida State
 Sept. 12 Colorado State
 Sept. 19 Lamar
 Sept. 26 at Baylor
 Oct. 3 Texas A&M
 Oct. 10 Arkansas
 Oct. 17 Rice
 Oct. 24 Tulsa
 Oct. 31 at Texas
 Nov. 7 Texas Christian
 Nov. 21 at Houston

UCLA

Sept. 5 San Diego State
 Sept. 12 at Nebraska
 Sept. 19 Fresno State
 Sept. 26 Arizona
 Oct. 3 at Stanford
 Oct. 17 Oregon
 Oct. 24 California
 Oct. 31 at Arizona State
 Nov. 7 at Oregon State
 Nov. 14 at Washington
 Nov. 21 at Southern Cal

WASHINGTON

Sept. 5 Stanford
 Sept. 12 Purdue
 Sept. 19 at Texas A&M
 Sept. 26 Pacific
 Oct. 3 at Oregon
 Oct. 10 Arizona State
 Oct. 17 Southern Cal
 Oct. 31 Oregon State
 Nov. 7 at Arizona
 Nov. 14 at UCLA
 Nov. 21 Washington State

YALE

Sept. 19 Brown
 Sept. 26 Connecticut
 Oct. 3 at Hawaii
 Oct. 10 William & Mary
 Oct. 17 at Columbia
 Oct. 24 Pennsylvania
 Oct. 31 at Dartmouth
 Nov. 7 Cornell
 Nov. 14 at Princeton
 Nov. 21 Harvard

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Florida State, Michigan, UCLA Rate as Top College Programs

College football quality is measured in terms of WINS and LOSSES, and nothing else matters - according to the general fan who could care less if 65 or 92% of the departing players earn degrees. The emphasis is on whether the team can win or not, and those teams that win most often are classified as having "outstanding football programs."

This is the view of the general fan who jumps with delight as the local team pounds out victory after victory, ignoring the fact that most of the wins are against inferior competition. Winning is paramount, a highly visible accomplishment that outclasses all other factors. The general fan looks at no more than the final score.

However, the handicapper rates programs on a different basis - being more prone to keeping track of the number of wins and losses against the spread; overall wins are not as important because this man marches to a different drummer.

Obviously, the true quality of a football program is somewhere between the idea held by the general fan and the active handicapper.

Jim Feist Sports conducted an 11-year study of football results (1976-1986), crafted an easy to apply statistical evaluation method, and ranked the NCAA teams based on the findings.

BYU Has Best W-L Margin

Turning first to the demands of the general fan, the study ranked teams on the basis of simple W-L, and obtained a margin of wins over losses. The graphics, on this page, show the 12 best and worst teams; BYU, as an example, has won 87 more games than it has lost - and is, therefore, 87 games over .500.

The Provo, Utah, eleven is followed, closely, by Nebraska and Oklahoma, with Penn State third. The top 12 Winningest Programs contain few surprises with Penn State, Alabama, Michigan, Ohio State, Georgia, Pittsburgh, USC, Arkansas and Washington rounding out the field.

The bottom dozen begins with Wake Forest which has 30 more losses than wins, and concludes with UTEP - a team that would have to go on a 91 game winning streak to reach .500; a feat that would require perfect seasons through 1993 and part of 1994.

Common sense could almost name the remainder of teams that have not had much success on the field, and perhaps only the inclusion of Virginia comes as a surprise. Kansas State, TCU, Rice, Columbia, Oregon State and Northwestern have been either doormats or a notch above for many, many seasons. However, bear in mind that the study constitutes 11 seasons of action, and a few of the "worst" teams have shown signs of improving, namely Rice, Oregon State and Northwestern.

Some teams crept very close to the Best list, including Texas which has a win

surplus of 55 games, Clemson and UCLA with 53, and Florida State, 51. Other respected programs, weak at the beginning of the study period but now gaining national recognition, include Arizona and Iowa (+16), Auburn (+31), Florida (+27), LSU (+32), Maryland (+45), Miami of Florida (+38), North Carolina (+44), Notre Dame (+35), Texas A&M (+31), and Tulsa (+31).

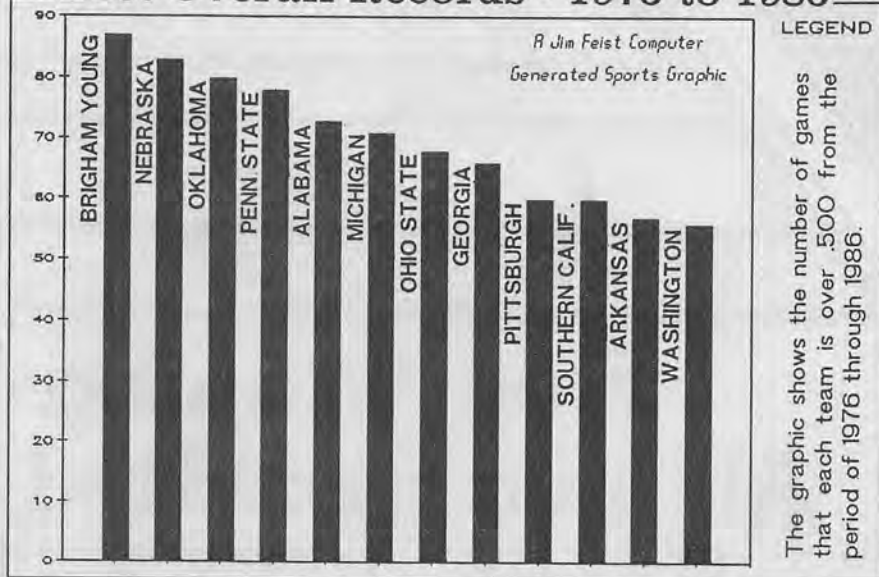
Programs that are sliding toward the bottom - California (-23), Colorado (-25), Louisville (-26), Kansas (-27), Oregon (-27), and Tulane (-29). If any of these teams has a disaster in 1987, and either Wake Forest, Duke or Memphis State goes above .500, the worst list could have new members.

For the non-betting fan, this is as far as he desires to go - an establishment of quality that has only W-L as the criteria. The handicapper, however, interjects "spread data" into the process, and sees quality from a differing viewpoint.

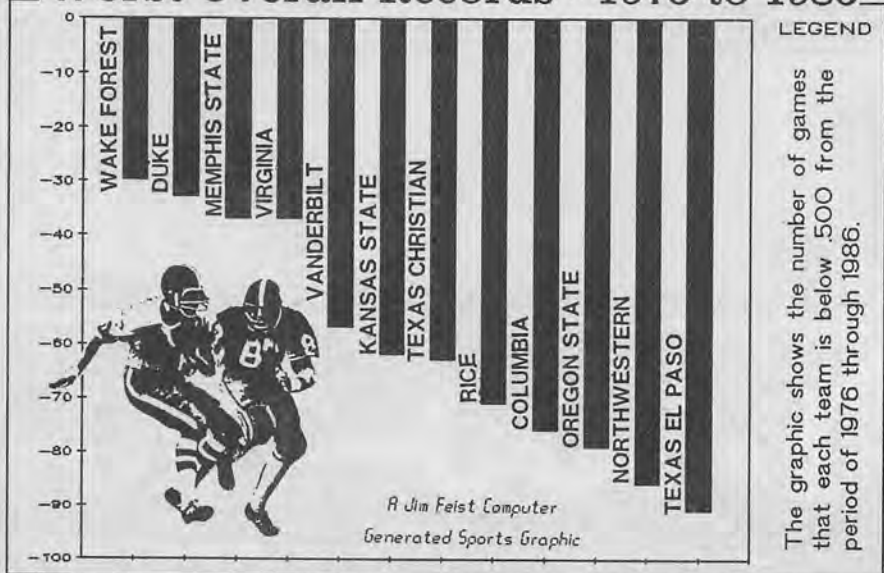
Seminole Rank First

The 11-year analysis pinpointed the "best and worst," according to pointspread records, and Florida State came out as the best team to back in the NCAA - Northwestern, the worst. Spread records often give an indication as to team quality, being contingent on how linesmakers view

Best Overall Records - 1976 to 1986



Worst Overall Records - 1976 to 1986



team strength and weaknesses. A team that consistently fails to cover the line is not playing up the quality that it has been assigned. Other teams will post winning records against the line, but lose on the actual scoreboard - suggesting that the teams are over-achieving.

The line does affect football results, considering that the winningest teams in America will claim an overall victory 76.9% of the time, but get a spread win percentage of only 53.1. The rank and order of the top (and worst) spread football teams:

	Surplus Wins	
Florida State	+23	BEST TEAMS
UCLA	+19	
Michigan	+18	
Clemson	+17	
Oklahoma	+16	
Washington	+14	
Miami-Florida	+14	
Penn State	+12	
Arkansas	+12	
Maryland	+12	
N. Carolina	+12	
Harvard	+11	
Syracuse	+10	
Florida	+10	
		WORST TEAMS
Vanderbilt	-10	
Miss. State	-10	
Louisville	-10	
Wake Forest	-10	
Virginia	-10	
Minnesota	-13	
Columbia	-17	
T C U	-17	
Houston	-19	
Kansas State	-23	
Oregon State	-26	
Northwestern	-30	

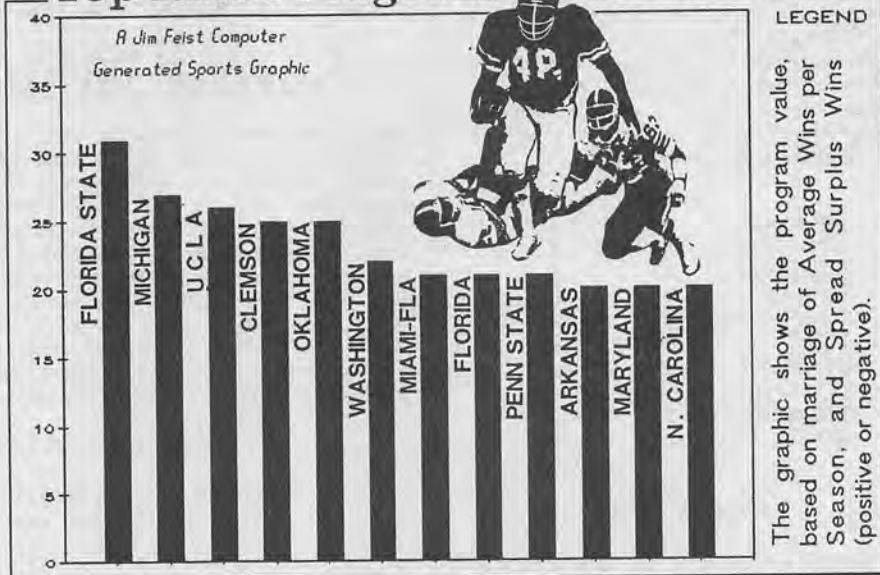
After 11 years, Florida State is 23 games over .500 versus the line, and while that leads the country, it is still an average gain of just over 2 wins per season. The spread does have an effect of slowing down wins, and losses, too, for that matter. Northwestern, despite being -30 in Surplus Wins or 30 games below .500, is averaging about two-and-a-half more setbacks than victories in each of the 11 seasons involved in the analysis.

Coupling the Results

Wins come in two varieties (overall and against-the-spread), and when combined, they provide a statement as to Team Quality. Ideally, a team must be able to win games, and if it gets past this hurdle, it also must figure to beat the odds - elevating it into a higher status than a team with a similar W-L record, but one that does not surpass the spread.

When a team accomplishes wins on both fronts, the program is strong. The measurement device was to obtain the AVERAGE NUMBER of wins in a season, and add the Spread Surplus (positive or negative) to the win index. As

Top Rated Programs 1976 to 1986



an example, Notre Dame averaged 7.3 wins per season from 1976-1986, and had a Spread Surplus of -8, for an ending Program Rating of -0.7, or -1. The Irish, while above average in wins per season, could not cover lines set against them, standing eight games below .500 for the period, and establishing their program as good but not outstanding.

The twin graphics show how the study rated both the BEST and WORST programs, with Florida State claiming the position as Top Performing Football Program, and Northwestern, the worst. The Best list has some expected teams - Michigan, UCLA, Clemson, Oklahoma, Washington, Miami of Florida, Penn State, and Arkansas - and a pair of surprising ones, North Carolina and Maryland, ACC teams that regularly beat opponents and the spread.

The five worst teams were expected to rank as such, transferring over from the worst category in the general W-L file; however, the programs at Mississippi State, California, Minnesota and Houston are not heading in the proper direction, and they have shown weakness in the two win areas, overall and against-the-spread.

Quality programs will win, by a larger margin than anticipated, while quality-less will lose - and by more than expected. The most ideal programs will be the ones that have a large surplus in OVERALL and SPREAD wins, and the data in these two areas provides an insight as to how the program has fared over 11 seasons. When a team, with a better overall and spread surplus, is considered to be an underdog in a game, there appears to be merit in selecting it to cover the spread, and perhaps, win the game - straight-up.

For assistance in the 1987 football season, here is a conference by conference breakdown on teams - displaying their OVERALL and SPREAD surplus, the number of games over (+) or below (-) .500, 1976-1986:

The Pac-10

Four of the six Pac-10 teams have negative W-L records, but only three have not been able to get a Surplus in Spread wins - Oregon State, California and Stanford, and the latter has rapidly improved its program with new recruiting and coaching moves. The conference has

Worst Rated Programs - 1976 to 1986



been a three-way chase between USC, UCLA and Washington - with Arizona State gaining on the leaders. UCLA and Washington have been the spread champions, and the best underdog role has been assumed by Oregon which has a -27 in overall wins and a +5 against-the-spread. Washington State, -18 and +3, is not far behind as a lively underdog.

Overall Spread		
Arizona	+16	+6
Ariz. State	+40	+6
California	-23	-8
Oregon	-27	+5
Oregon St.	-79	-26
USC	+60	+4
Stanford	+0	-12
UCLA	+53	+19
Washington	+56	+14
Wash. State	-18	+3

The SWC

Texas Tech needs to gain only nine wins to reach the .500 level, and this will give the Southwest Conference an enviable record of all but two teams having more victories than defeats. There is little hope for either Texas Christian or Rice - each has a very large deficit to overcome. Arkansas has surpassed the Longhorns as the winningest team in the league, over the 11 seasons studied, and also leads in Spread Surplus. The worst team to back is Houston which has a +17 in overall wins, and a -19 versus the spread. Rice has been a fairly good underdog, considering that the team is -71 in overall wins and only -4 against-the-spread; however, the Owls need big numbers and these might not be as available in 1987 with Jerry Berndt beefing up the program.

Overall Spread		
Arkansas	+57	+12
Baylor	+20	+3
Houston	+17	-19
Rice	-71	-4
SMU	+31	-3
Texas	+55	-4
Texas A&M	+31	+3
TCU	-63	-17
Texas Tech	-9	-5

The Ivy League

The Ivies can compete when within the framework of their own league, but life on the outside has not been generous; except for Yale, Brown and Harvard, every other league team is in the red, overall. Harvard has emerged as not only the Ivy leader against the spread but has gained, nationally, in this respect. Penn is now

Overall Spread		
Brown	+16	-3
Columbia	-76	-17
Cornell	-21	-3
Dartmouth	-5	+1
Harvard	+13	+11
Penn	-2	+5
Princeton	-20	-4
Yale	+25	-2

above .500 versus the line, and Dartmouth is one game on the plus side. Two teams - Penn and Dartmouth - have been steady underdogs, owning losing overall marks but winning spread ledgers. Naturally, the way

NCAA Average Overall, Spread Wins Per Season

What is an average year for UCLA - overall and against-the-spread? This table gives the answer, detailing the W-L records of major teams from 1976 to 1986. The Bruins, as an example, averaged 7.9 wins and 3.1 losses per year, and averaged 6.5 wins and 4.7 losses versus the line. The table does enforce the fact that, over a period of time, the spread has a tendency to return teams to the .500 level. WAC teams have been getting game pointspreads only in recent years, and that accounts for their low total of line verdicts.



Per Season - Average Wins, Losses

	Overall		vs Spread			Overall		vs Spread	
	Won	Lost	Won	Lost		Won	Lost	Won	Lost
Air Force	5.6	5.8	4.6	4.1					
Alabama	9.2	2.6	5.7	5.3	Navy	5.5	5.6	4.6	4.3
Arizona	6.2	4.7	4.9	4.4	Nebraska	9.8	2.3	6.0	5.2
Ariz. St.	7.5	3.8	5.0	4.5	N. Mexico	5.2	6.4	1.6	1.6
Arkansas	8.3	3.1	6.1	5.0	N. Caro.	7.6	3.6	5.6	4.5
Army	4.8	5.9	4.6	4.6	NC State	5.5	5.6	4.8	4.7
Auburn	7.1	4.3	5.6	4.8	Northw'tn	1.6	9.4	3.8	6.6
Baylor	6.5	4.6	5.2	4.9	N. Dame	7.3	4.1	5.2	5.9
Bos. Col.	6.4	4.9	4.8	5.1	Ohio St.	9.0	2.3	5.9	5.9
B Y U	10.2	2.3	2.6	2.4	Oklahoma	9.5	2.2	6.5	5.0
Brown	5.4	3.9	3.9	4.2	Okla. St.	6.3	4.9	4.7	5.0
California	4.5	6.6	4.7	5.5	Oregon	4.0	6.5	5.2	4.7
Cincinnati	4.6	6.2	1.5	1.8	Ore. St.	1.8	9.0	3.6	6.0
Clemson	7.8	3.0	5.9	4.4	Penn St.	9.5	2.4	6.2	5.1
Colgate	6.4	4.1	3.0	2.8	Penn	4.6	4.7	4.0	3.6
Colorado	4.4	6.6	5.1	5.5	Pittsburgh	8.4	2.9	5.6	5.2
Colo. St.	4.7	6.5	1.7	1.5	Princeton	3.7	5.6	4.0	4.4
Columbia	1.2	8.1	3.3	4.8	Purdue	5.8	5.4	5.1	5.7
Cornell	3.7	5.6	3.9	4.2	Rice	2.3	8.7	4.8	5.2
Dartmouth	4.4	4.8	4.2	4.1	Rutgers	6.9	4.5	4.1	3.6
Duke	3.9	6.9	4.7	5.4	SD State	6.2	5.0	1.9	1.6
E. Caro.	5.7	5.3	1.4	1.2	S. Caro.	5.9	5.3	4.7	4.6
Florida	6.7	4.3	5.6	4.7	S. Calif.	8.5	3.0	5.6	5.3
Fla State	8.0	3.4	5.8	3.7	S M U	7.0	4.2	4.9	5.2
Georgia	8.6	2.6	5.6	5.5	S. Miss.	6.3	4.7	2.0	1.5
Ga. Tech	4.7	5.9	4.9	4.9	Stanford	5.6	5.6	4.9	6.0
Harvard	5.2	4.0	4.7	3.7	Syracuse	4.9	6.2	5.6	4.7
Hawaii	6.0	4.9	1.3	1.1	Temple	5.4	5.4	2.6	1.8
H. Cross	5.9	5.0	2.9	3.0	Tennessee	6.6	4.6	5.6	5.3
Houston	6.5	4.9	4.5	6.2	Texas	8.3	3.3	5.4	5.7
Illinois	5.0	5.8	5.0	5.7	Tex. A&M	7.1	4.3	5.3	5.0
Indiana	5.4	6.6	5.4	5.5	T C U	2.5	8.2	4.4	5.9
Iowa	6.5	5.0	5.7	5.3	Tex EPaso	1.6	9.9	1.1	0.9
Iowa State	5.4	5.5	4.3	4.6	Tex. Tech	5.0	5.8	5.0	5.5
Kansas	4.1	6.6	4.6	5.4	Tulane	4.3	6.9	4.8	5.3
Kans. St.	2.6	8.3	3.6	5.6	Tulsa	6.9	4.1	2.8	2.0
Kentucky	5.3	5.6	4.8	5.5	U C L A	7.9	3.1	6.5	4.7
L S U	7.0	4.1	5.4	5.7	Utah	5.4	5.6	1.4	1.6
Louisv'le	4.3	6.6	1.4	2.3	Vander'bt	2.9	8.1	4.5	5.4
Maryland	7.8	3.7	6.0	4.9	Virginia	3.7	7.1	4.6	5.5
Memph. St.	7.0	3.0	3.0	3.5	Va. Tech	6.5	4.6	4.3	4.1
Miami-Fla	7.5	4.0	5.7	4.5	Wake For.	4.2	6.9	4.0	4.9
Michigan	9.2	2.7	6.6	5.0	Washng'tn	8.4	3.3	6.1	4.8
Mich. St.	5.2	5.7	5.5	4.8	Wash St.	4.6	6.2	4.9	4.6
Minnesota	4.9	6.2	4.5	5.6	West Va.	6.3	5.1	4.6	5.2
Missis'pi	4.6	6.1	4.8	5.3	Wisconsin	5.4	5.7	5.2	5.1
Miss. St.	5.7	5.5	4.4	5.3	Wyoming	5.6	5.9	1.3	2.1
Missouri	5.4	5.8	5.2	5.5	Yale	5.7	3.5	3.9	4.1

Penn has dominated the last couple of years, getting an advantage with the Quakers will be nearly impossible. The worst performance has been at Yale where the Dogs have a +25 in overall wins - and a -2 versus the spread; Brown is also as undependable, getting +16 in overall wins, and a -3 ATS (against the spread).

The ACC

Most people think that the ACC spends the fall getting ready for basketball, ignoring the revelation that three of the nation's better spread teams lurk within the eyesight of fabled roundball arenas. Clemson (+17), Maryland (+12), and North Carolina (+12) have strong ATS credentials, and they are also the only teams in the league to be in the black, overall. Each of these, therefore, becomes a viable candidate for an upset when cast in an underdog position. If any team has an outside chance as a "dog," Georgia Tech would be the logical choice - maintaining a -13, overall, and even (+0) ATS. North Carolina State, the Cinderella of 1986, is close to even in both categories, and cannot be ignored when getting points.

	Overall	Spread
Clemson	+53	+17
Duke	-33	-7
Ga. Tech	-13	+0
Maryland	+45	+12
N. Carolina	+44	+12
N.C. State	-1	+1
Virginia	-37	-10
W. Forest	-30	-10

The SEC

Ole Miss is gaining on .500 in overall wins, Kentucky is only four short of breaking even, and when they arrive, all but one team in the league will have a surplus in overall wins. Vanderbilt, at -57, has no chance of ever reaching .500 in our lifetime. The primary winners ATS have been Alabama, Auburn, and the best one of the group, Florida. Vanderbilt and Mississippi State have not been successful ATS, holding down last spot in the SEC with a -10. Georgia, while +66 in overall wins, is only +2 ATS, meaning the Dawgs are not profitable when cast as a favorite - winning, not covering. Louisiana State has also not fared well when asked to cover the line.

	Overall	Spread
Alabama	+73	+5
Auburn	+31	+9
Florida	+27	+10
Georgia	+66	+2
Kentucky	-4	-7
LSU	+32	-4
Ole Miss	-16	-5
Miss. State	+3	-10
Tennessee	+22	+3
Vanderbilt	-57	-10

The Big Ten

Michigan and Ohio State dominate, with Iowa in third place and closing, slowly, but the rest of the league has not had much luck in overall results. Purdue, now in a slump, has a +5, and it could end up in the red after 1987 - despite the coaching change. Northwestern, even with a resurgent program, is still in the basement.

DANGER LIST

Teams on this list have not performed well while carrying the burden of being a FAVORITE, and extreme caution should be used when handicapping them to win any games against the spread.

1. HOUSTON
2. TEXAS
3. YALE
4. LSU
5. BOSTON COLLEGE
6. OKLAHOMA STATE
7. PURDUE
8. BROWN
9. OHIO STATE
10. GEORGIA
11. USC
12. ALABAMA
13. BRIGHAM YOUNG

-86 in overall wins, and -30 ATS. There are two fairly good dog values in the Big Ten - teams that are negative, overall, and positive ATS; Michigan State and Wisconsin. You should avoid both Ohio State and Purdue, when favored, as they have poor marks. The Boilermakers will probably not be a favorite in 1987, but Ohio State should be in nearly every start.

	Overall	Spread
Illinois	-9	-8
Indiana	-13	-1
Iowa	+16	+5
Michigan	+71	+18
Mich. St.	-6	+8
Minnesota	-14	-13
Northwest'n	-86	-30
Ohio St.	+68	+0
Purdue	+5	-7
Wisconsin	-4	+1

The Big Eight

Nebraska (+83) and Oklahoma (+80) have dominated this conference since Harry Truman was blasting opponents with an effervescent tongue, and the only other team to have an overall plus is Oklahoma State. Every other Big Eight team is negative, dropping down to -62 at Kansas State. Only the Sooners and Huskers have spread surplus wins, and Oklahoma is on top with +16. From the line's point of view, Oklahoma is a slightly better play ATS than is Nebraska, covering seven more games, and each is always faced with double digit lines. Oklahoma State is not a team to support very often, owning a plus in overall games, and a negative ATS.

	Overall	Spread
Colorado	-25	-4
Iowa State	-1	-4
Kansas	-27	-9
Kansas St.	-62	-23
Missouri	-5	-3
Nebraska	+83	+9
Oklahoma	+80	+16
Okla. St.	+15	-3

The WAC

The WAC, like Rodney Dangerfield, doesn't get any respect, yet this fledgling conference has six teams with Surplus Wins against-the-spread, and Air Force leads the way with a +5. San Diego State, Colorado State and UTEP are not far behind. Overall, BYU has been the dominant force and is +87 in overall wins, but only +2 to the line. Hawaii and San Diego State are next in overall wins; each have a surplus of 12 and 13, respectively. The big loser has been UTEP, -91 in overall games, while Colorado State is -19 in total games, and New Mexico -13.

	Overall	Spread
Air Force	-2	+5
BYU	+87	+2
Colo. State	-19	+3
Hawaii	+12	+2
New Mexico	-13	-1
S. Diego St.	+13	+4
UTEP	-91	+3
Utah	-3	-3
Wyoming	-3	-9

Independents

The Independents have some bargains and some false favorites, intermingled. Boston College is +16 in overall games, and -3 ATS, which leads to the conclusion that you want to play against them whenever they get the favorite's tag, and the same story holds true for West Virginia, Holy Cross, and the worst performer of the lot, Notre Dame. You pay a price to back the Irish, and they have responded with a line win surplus of -8, contrasted with their overall +32. The service academies, Army and Navy, have been fairly stable in underdog roles, possessing negative overall but positive numbers ATS. Fifteen of the 13 independent teams are above .500 versus the line, showing that they often stun aligned teams that take these games too lightly. The best teams to stick with, especially when given an underdog assignment, are Florida State, Miami of Florida, and Syracuse - the latter is a bonafide dog champion, being -14 in overall games, and +10 to the line.

	Overall	Spread
Army	-12	+0
Boston Col.	+16	-3
Cincinnati	-18	-4
Colgate	+25	+2
E. Carolina	+5	+2
Fla. State	+51	+23
Holy Cross	+10	-1
Louisville	-26	-10
Memphis St.	-37	-5
Miami-Fla.	+38	+14
Navy	-2	+4
Notre Dame	+35	-8
Penn State	+78	+12
Pittsburgh	+60	+4
Rutgers	+27	+5
S. Carolina	+7	+2
S. Miss.	+17	+6
Syracuse	-14	+10
Temple	+0	+9
Tulane	-29	-5
Tulsa	+31	+9
Va. Tech	+21	+2
W. Virginia	+13	-6

Handicapping College Football With Moving Power Ratings

Using Power Ratings can be one of the more fascinating aspects of handicapping college football, and the method can also produce winners at a higher than expected level. Power Rating, as the name implies, is a mathematical representation of team strength - and is used to compare teams, developing a difference in points. However, no team ever plays to its exact power rating, and half of the time it will be above, the other half, below. Yet, power ratings can be useful when you understand their limitations, and know how to use them.

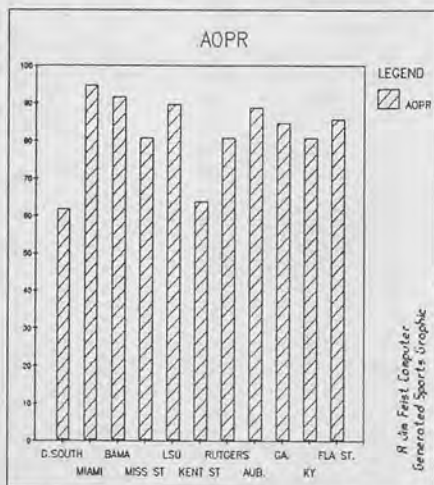
Jim Feist Sports has a simple, yet effective, system of rating teams, and the only information required to put the method into action is: **Final Scores and Opponent's Current Power Rating.** The remainder is elementary mathematics that can be completed on a home calculator - no intense statistical probing is demanded.

As an example of the method, here is how Florida's 1986 schedule can be worked into weekly Power Ratings. The Gators had the following log:

FLORIDA GATORS 1986 Results

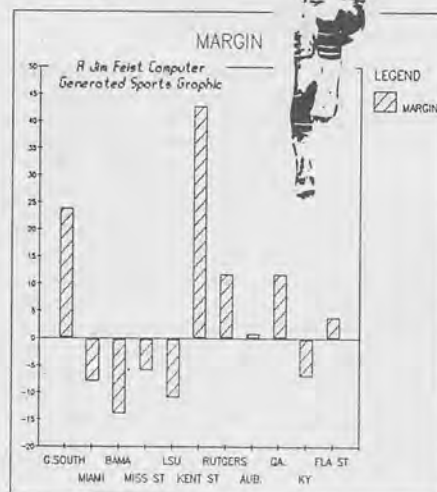
	Opp.	Final
Ga. South	62	Won, 38-14
Miami-Fla	95	Lost, 15-23
Alabama	92	Lost, 7-21
Miss St.	81	Lost, 10-16
L S U	90	Lost, 17-28
Kent St.	64	Won, 52-9
Rutgers	81	Won, 15-3
Auburn	89	Won, 18-17
Georgia	85	Won, 31-19
Kentucky	81	Lost, 3-10
Fla. State	86	Won, 17-13

Florida, in the course of the season, played 11 games, winning six and losing five, and came up against a wide variety of opponents - ranging from the very strong (Miami of Florida) to the weak (Georgia Southern). This graphic shows the Power Ratings of EACH OPPONENT as



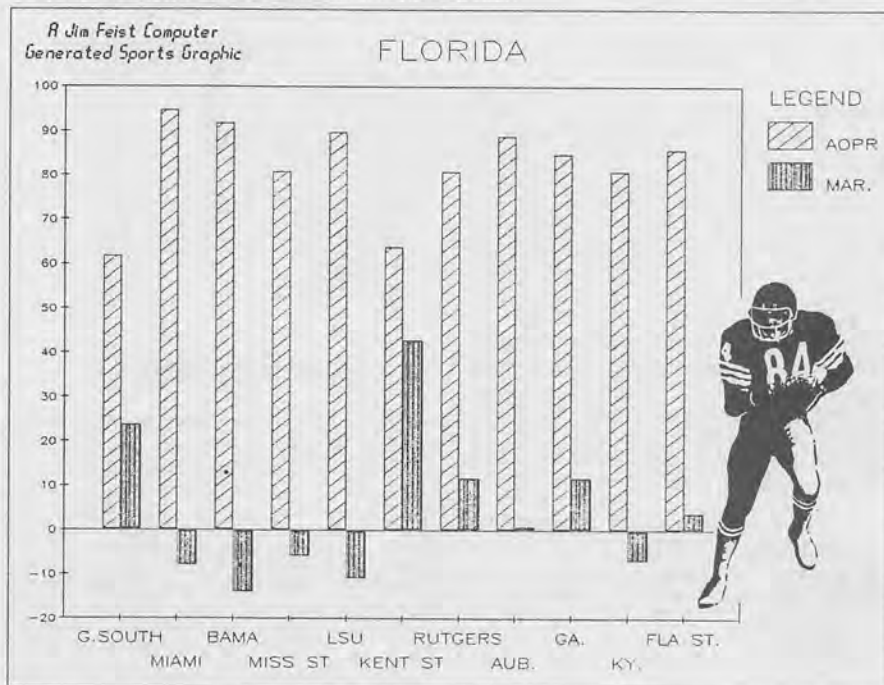
of the date that the game was played. The **Jim Feist Power Rating Method** requires knowledge of the power rating of the opponent, and as you can see in the graphic, Florida faced a slightly stronger slate of foes in the first half of the year than in the second half, probably accounting for the 1-4 start.

The next variable that is required for each game is the **MARGIN** - difference between what the offense scores and defense allows. As an example, in the Georgia Southern contest, Florida won by 24 points (38-14) or had a game margin of +24. Versus the Hurricanes, Florida's margin was -8, losing 15-23, and the margin against Alabama was -14. The graphic, immediately right, shows the various margins that Florida had against its 1986 opponents. At this point, with margins and opponent game-day ratings, we can construct a weekly Power Rating.



Gators Best When Opposition Weak

The Power Rating process is designed to merge the Opponent Power Rating in each Florida game with the final score margin, and the data, displayed graphically, appear in this fashion:



It is obvious that Florida's biggest single game margins came against weaker foes, Georgia Southern and Kent State, and the worst margins were in losses to Alabama, Auburn and Kentucky, the first two being powerhouses in the SEC, and the last setback being strictly one of those "any Saturday" upsets.

Most teams, like Florida, will perform better - getting larger margins - when the opponent is far below their level, and this is the factor that the Power Rating method deals with foremost, obtaining an individual game rating (or index) that takes into consideration both the strength

of the opponent, and the actual game margin. The method for turning these component parts into a rating is extremely simple - **For the Winner of the Game: Add one-half of the game margin to the loser's Power Rating; For the Loser of the Game: Subtract one-half**

of the game margin from the winner's Power Rating.

Using Georgia Southern, as an example, Florida faced an opponent that had a 62 power index, as of when the game was played, and the Gators won by 24 points. One-half of the margin is 24 divided by 2 or 12 points. Therefore, Florida's rating is determined by adding the half margin (+12) to Georgia Southern's Power Rating of 62 or a Florida Game Rating of 74.

Let's move to the second week, Florida facing Miami of Florida, 95 rated. The Hurricanes won by 8 (23-15), so the Gator's game performance is 95 (Miami's index) minus four (one-half of the game margin of 8) or an index of 91. After two weeks, Florida had a 74 index against a weak opponent, and a 91 versus a quality one. Miami's rating on the Florida game would be Florida's current rating plus one-half of

the game margin (8).

After each team has played three games, you average out the individual game power ratings to get the CURRENT TEAM INDEX. As an example, after Florida had played Georgia Southern, Miami of Florida and Alabama - the Gators had individual game ratings of 74, 91, and 85 for a three week average of 83.3.

The method does require three games before a relatively strong rating appears, and it does not alter that much the remainder of the season. The Gators finished 1986, according to our method, with a rating of 85 - playing a schedule rated at 82, and an average margin of +5.

The strongest aspect of this method is that it takes results of games played, establishes a level of team performance, and permits you to compare teams on a fairly objective basis.

After Their BEST, Came a DEFEAT!

Air Force beat 69-rated Navy by 34 points for a game index of 86, and followed this "seasonal" high with a 28-point loss to Notre Dame. This is typical of what happens when a team is coming off its best performance of the year to date, and as they say in horse racing, "Never bet on a horse if its last race was its best."

There are many other examples: After the Arizona State game, Arizona put its 100 game rating (obtained versus State) against Stanford in Tokyo, and lost, straightup, by five. Auburn, 90-rated at the time, blitzed Mississippi State by 29 for a game index of 96 - the highest in the first seven games. Auburn followed this with a one-point loss to Florida.

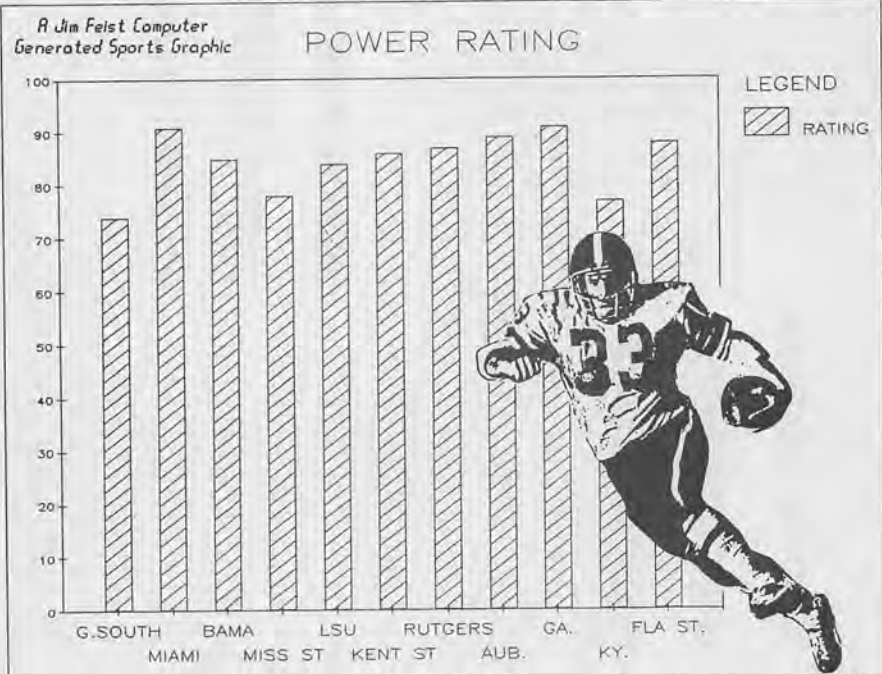
Georgia Tech, in the fifth week of 1986, had a seasonal high to date of 103 against North Carolina State, then turned around and lost to Auburn by 21. Indiana lost to Ohio State, but rated 84 in the game, and this seasonal high was followed by an upset loss at Minnesota. Kentucky's fourth week 95 against Southern Miss was followed by a 20 point setback to Ole Miss.

LSU, had its season high near the end of the year, a 103 against Mississippi State, and then failed to cover in a two point victory over Notre Dame in Baton Rouge. Mississippi rated 92 in a win over Kentucky, and barely escaped Southwest Louisiana, in a non-board game, the following week. Three weeks later, the Rebels had another high - 89 in an upset win at LSU. What came next? An upset home loss to Tennessee.

Stanford, in week six of its schedule, had a season-to-date high, 97, in a triumph over Oregon - on the road. This impressive win was followed by a ten point loss, at home, to Southern California. Syracuse walloped Missouri by 40 for a 92, then lost by 39 points to Penn State.

Not every case of a season high is followed by a loss, particularly when the high is set by a powerhouse club, such as Oklahoma, Nebraska or Miami.

Smoothing Out the Highs and Lows



The intention of the Power Rating is to smooth out all the valley and peak data that appears when you have a mixed bag of opponents, and greatly fluctuating margins. Using the method, Florida would converge into this Power Rating format - a fairly smooth line developing from a wide assortment of weekly results. The Jim Feist Sports system is ideal for those who wish to transform results into ratings.

The System Goes to Work

There are three ways to employ the method, depending on the number of games that you are seeking; first, power rating versus power rating - taking the highest rated team when it is an underdog; second, going against any team when its LAST GAME was its HIGHEST rated to date, and lastly, going WITH any team when its LAST GAME was its LOWEST to date. The first use is going to generate many possible selections while the latter two will limit the number of possibilities. In most cases, you want to select teams that are better - according to your ratings - but not in the eyes of the oddsmaker.

When the ratings are very close to each other, within two or three points, there is a strong chance that "luck or breaks" will

decide the contest more than the actual talent on each squad. The stronger the "overlay," the better your chances to escape the "fickle finger of fate," a determinant of far too many collegiate games.

Teams cannot compete on the same efficiency level week after week, and they will rise and fall - enabling you to latch on to their movement cycle, and use it to your advantage. When a team is "due" to cycle upwards, you should be WITH THEM, and when they are set for a downward dip, go AGAINST them.

It is very difficult for college teams to carry a consistent level of play forward, particularly after notching a hard-fought victory against an arch-rival.

Each week of the 1987 season, work out the individual team ratings for each game, and then average the ratings-to-date to obtain the current team power rating. This method will provide the handicapper with "Team Performance in Motion," and assist in grasping the true strength of quality, and when and where it will probably rise or fall. From two easy-to-obtain stats - game margin and opponent power rating - you have a viable method to create, and employ, your own ratings. The procedure has a built-in factor of being "self correcting" - as performance improves, the power rating goes up, and as performance dips, so does the rating. What more could a handicapper ask for?

Getting ready for 1987, you need to set up Power Ratings to use at the beginning of the season, and these are the ones that we suggest - based on results from 1986. As a general rule, team ratings do not change very much from one season to the next, and while Jim Feist Sports will alter the ratings as the season gets closer, these are the starting ones that Jim uses:

1987 Rate	1987 Rate
Air Force 76	Navy 70
Alabama 89	Nebraska 91
Arizona 84	New Mexico 68
Ariz. State 91	N. Carolina 79
Arkansas 85	N.C. State 79
Army 70	Northwest'n 73
Auburn 89	Notre Dame 87
Baylor 83	Ohio State 87
Boston Col. 83	Oklahoma 97
B Y U 81	Okla. St. 78
Brown 55	Oregon 78
California 73	Oregon St. 73
Cincinnati 72	Penn State 90
Clemson 82	Penn 60
Colgate 55	Pittsburgh 83
Colorado 82	Princeton 48
Colo. State 74	Purdue 73
Columbia 40	Rice 70
Cornell 56	Rutgers 78
Dartmouth 54	S. D. State 79
Duke 74	S. Carolina 81
E. Carolina 67	S. Calif. 87
Florida 85	S. Meth. NA
Fla. State 86	S. Miss. 73
Georgia 85	Stanford 84
Ga. Tech 80	Syracuse 78
Harvard 51	Temple 80
Hawaii 77	Tennessee 81
Holy Cross 68	Texas 80
Houston 73	Texas A&M 87
Illinois 77	T C U 67
Indiana 78	Texas EP 68
Iowa 83	Texas Tech 78
Iowa State 77	Tulane 73
Kansas 65	Tulsa 77
Kansas St. 67	U C L A 91
Kentucky 82	Utah 68
L S U 88	Vanderbilt 72
Louisville 64	Virginia 72
Maryland 83	Va. Tech 78
Memphis St. 62	W. Forest 75
Miami-Fla 92	Washington 90
Michigan 89	Wash. St. 73
Mich. State 83	West Va. 77
Minnesota 77	Wisconsin 75
Missis'pi 81	Wyoming 75
Miss. St. 77	Yale 52
Missouri 67	

Starting Ratings for 1987 Season

In review, the current power rating of a team is an average of the ratings worked out to date, and the method is fast, and can be accomplished with or without a calculator. The winning team's rating is the "opponent's power rating plus one-half of the game margin," and the losing team's rating is "the opponent's power rating minus one-half of the game margin."

This method has been used by staff handicappers for the past several years, and they have expressed general satisfaction with the results when applied directly to the line, but the most interesting comments were that it generates a genuine insight into the season.

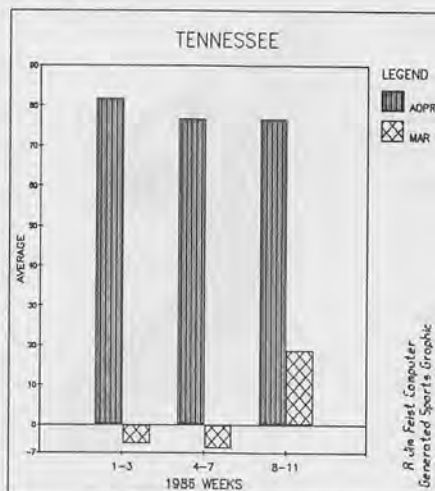
Splitting the Season into Sections

If a desire exists to dig deeper, the power rating method can reveal some highly informative changes in team performance, particularly when the season is broken down into stages. A college slate can be split into three segments - the opening (weeks 1-3), the positioning chase (weeks 4-7), and the stretch drive (weeks 8-11 or 12). How a team fares in each of these schedule periods can be converted into usable findings, coupling opponent quality and margin.

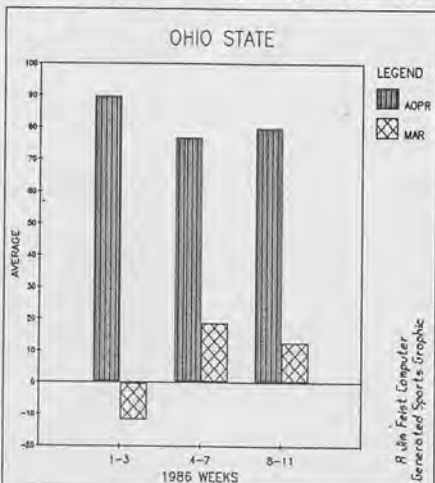
As an example, Syracuse in the first three weeks faced opponents with an average rating of 76, and the Orange had an average margin of -6 or a power rating of 73 (76 minus one-half of the actual margin). In weeks four to seven, the Orange faced a schedule that rated at 81, and the margin was +0 or the Orange had improved to being an 81-rated team.

In the last stages of the year, weeks 8 to 11, Syracuse had a +3 margin against a 78-rated schedule or a rating of 80. The Orange began weakly, improved during the middle run when facing the most difficult part of their slate, and held on at the end.

Additional understanding of the value in this type of research can be seen in this series of individual team graphics, all based on last season.

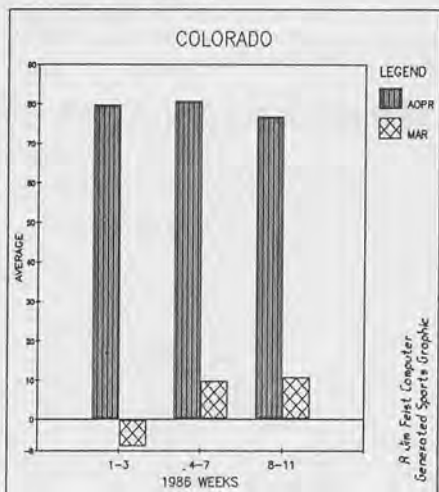


The Volunteers played quality foes in the first three weeks, shown in the above graphic as "AOPR" (Average Opponent Power Rating), and the last two periods were against competition of the same ability. Negative scoring margins existed in

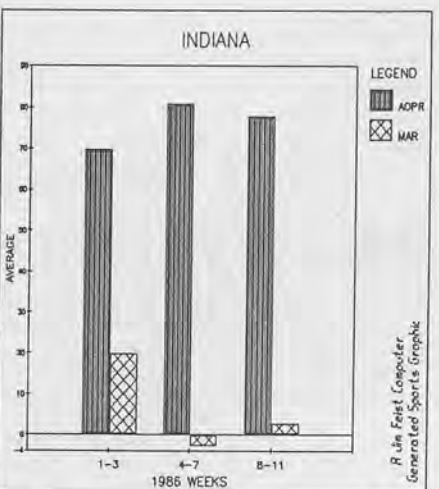


the first seven games, and this could be attributed more to an onslaught of injuries than any other factor. When the Vols got healthy, they roared in the last four weeks of the year. Tennessee finished on an upswing, and that kind of performance usually carries over into the next season.

Ohio State is another example of a team that began slowly, got its "act together," and came down the home stretch like Willie Shoemaker. As in the case of Tennessee, a difficult beginning was followed by a more acceptable array of opposition, and the Buckeyes' margin improved, accordingly.

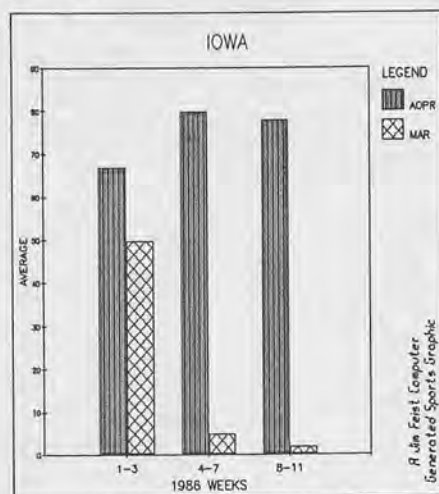


Colorado rose from a negative to a positive margin after week three, and performed, consistently, the last eight weeks. One observation that can be made, on the basis of these graphics, is that a team never achieves identical data from one period to the next - there will always be some variation, and a strong second period may see a very slight decline in the third. The important finding is to determine whether the team is improving or not, and has the schedule been a factor in the performance to date.

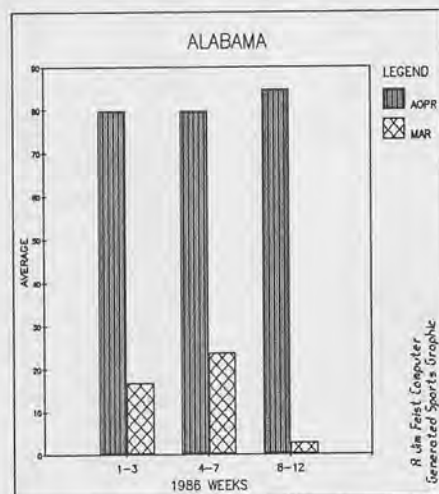


A prime example of how a schedule can affect a team is seen in the Indiana and Iowa graphics. The Hoosiers and Hawkeyes played very weak opposition in the beginning of 1986, and the team margins reveal this. Iowa was winning by an average of 50 points per game, Indiana by almost 20. Each was faced with the

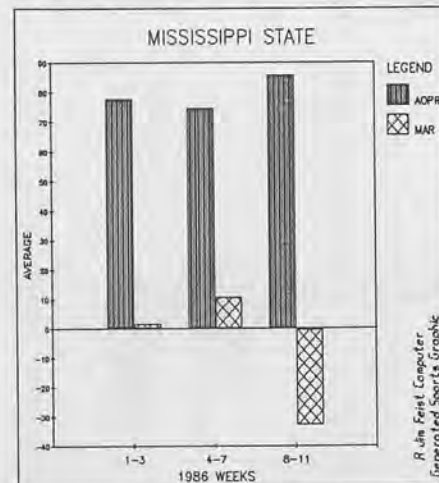
hardest part of the schedule in the middle section of the season, and the margin plunged.



The Tide situation stresses the impact of scheduling on performance, as Alabama established outstanding stats in the first seven weeks, and declined when the last four weeks brought them face-to-face with far-above-average opponents.



Mississippi State played a fairly difficult schedule, and fell apart more quickly than any college team in 1986, going from a positive to a very, very negative margin in the final four weeks. The collapse was a combination of the team being somewhat over-rated earlier in the year, and having a most demanding schedule at the conclusion



of the year.

The vital statement in this research is that teams change from one period to the next, and what happens in the first three weeks has very little bearing on what you can expect in the remainder of the year.

The Home Field Edge in College Football

Assigning a home field value to NCAA teams has become one of the more challenging tasks, mainly because only limited research has been carried out on the project. Those that have tackled the chore, including the Jim Feist staff, have come to the conclusion that the home field does have value, but it varies from season to season and is in direct relationship to the ability or rating of the home team.

Previously, home fields carried a rather standard number of points that were added to the home team's power rating, and while this may still be viable it is losing weight as more research is conducted.

A recent investigation resulted in the theory that home field valuation should be measured in terms of conference strength, and the number of rating points that a team is above the league average is the number of points that should be awarded for the home field. As an example, if a conference has a power rating average of 75, then any team with an individual rating more than 75 has a home field edge. A team rated 79 would get +4 for home games, and an 82-rated team would be +7. If a team is BELOW the norm, the home field carries a standard value of +0; no team can be assigned a negative home field rating.

Every few weeks, during the 1987 season, league averages must be ascertained and home field adjustments made, as they will change, just as team performance deviates.

Here is how the Big Ten looks, as of opening day, and this is the procedure to determine home field value:

	Power	League	Edge
Illinois	77	80	+0
Indiana	80	80	+0
Iowa	83	80	+3
Michigan	89	80	+9
Mich. State	83	80	+3
Minnesota	77	80	+0
Northwest'n	75	80	+0
Ohio State	87	80	+7
Purdue	73	80	+0
Wisconsin	75	80	+0
AVERAGE	80	80	+2

From the example, the Big Ten has an average (season-beginning) power rating of 80, and the teams that rate higher will be awarded a home field edge, and only four get the distinction - Iowa, Michigan, Michigan State and Ohio State. Michigan gets a +9 for home field contests, Ohio +7, and both Iowa and Michigan State rate a +3. The remainder of the league has no extra value for home games.

As a hypothetical illustration, Michigan is playing at Wisconsin, and the basic power ratings are Michigan 89, Wisconsin 75. The difference between the numbers is 14, and

Paying close attention to schedule quality is essential in modern handicapping, and never expect either a far above or below average margin to continue - the gigantic surplus or deficit is probably a direct result of opponent quality.

the Wolverines would be -14 or a 14-point favorite; there is no home field adjustment because Wisconsin rates +0. If the game were set for Ann Arbor, the fourteen point difference would be adjusted by Michigan's home edge (+9) for a final line of the Wolves by 23.

Take a home-and-away case of Iowa at Illinois where the Hawks (83) would be a six point favorite over the Illini (77), but at Iowa City - with the home field adjustment - Hayden Fry would be -9.

Ohio State (87) at Michigan (89) would suggest that the Wolves would be a large -11 favorite, but the same teams at Ohio would find a line of the Buckeyes by five. This is a 16-point turnaround, and the closer teams are in power ratings, and quality, the more the home field works for them against strong opposition.

A Choice of Values

You have two methods through which you can apply home field for the 1987 season, using the method just described which entails some work or application of standard home field values. A list follows that details the starting home field ratings for major teams; the Moving column is the advantage based on our method, and the Firm is a standard rating - one that is based on history and can be used throughout the year with no adjustments. As a handicapper, you select the system that best suits your needs.

The Moving ratings will vary from +0 to +10, never being scored higher, and the majority of cases where one or more teams have such a high home field value is because the rest of the league carries weak ratings, such as the Big Eight - totally dominated by Nebraska and Oklahoma. The Firm ratings will vary from +0 to +7, and are used as a constant throughout the year - no variation or adjustment.

	Moving	Firm
AIR FORCE	+2	+3
ALABAMA	+6	+3
ARIZONA	+2	+2
ARIZONA ST.	+9	+3
ARKANSAS	+7	+3
ARMY	+0	+4
AUBURN	+6	+4
BAYLOR	+5	+3
BOSTON COL.	+6	+2
B. Y. U.	+7	+2
BROWN	+3	+2
CALIFORNIA	+0	+1
CINCINNATI	+0	+3
CLEMSON	+4	+2
COLGATE	+3	+2
COLORADO	+4	+2
COLO. STATE	+0	+3

	Moving	Firm		Moving	Firm
COLUMBIA	+0	+0	PENN	+8	+8
CORNELL	+4	+3	PITT	+9	+3
DARTMOUTH	+2	+3	PRINCETON	+0	+2
DUKE	+0	+2	PURDUE	+0	+2
E. CAROLINA	+0	+1	RICE	+0	+3
FLORIDA	+2	+2	RUTGERS	+5	+2
FLA. STATE	+9	+5	S. DIEGO ST.	+5	+6
GEORGIA	+2	+2	S. CAROLINA	+4	+4
GEORGIA TECH	+2	+2	S. CALIFORNIA	+5	+4
HARVARD	+0	+1	S. MISS.	+0	+1
HAWAII	+3	+3	STANFORD	+2	+4
HOLY CROSS	+0	+3	SYRACUSE	+5	+2
HOUSTON	+0	+1	TEMPLE	+3	+3
ILLINOIS	+0	+4	TENNESSEE	+0	+1
INDIANA	+0	+3	TEXAS	+2	+2
IOWA	+3	+5	TEXAS A&M	+9	+5
IOWA STATE	+0	+2	T. C. U.	+0	+2
KANSAS	+0	+4	TEXAS E. PASO	+0	+0
KANSAS STATE	+0	+2	TEXAS TECH	+0	+3
KENTUCKY	+0	+3	TULANE	+0	+3
L. S. U.	+5	+1	TULSA	+3	+4
LOUISVILLE	+0	+0	U C L A	+9	+8
MARYLAND	+5	+2	UTAH	+0	+1
MEMPHIS STATE	+0	+1	VANDERBILT	+0	+3
MIAMI-FLA	+10	+8	VIRGINIA	+0	+1
MICHIGAN	+9	+4	VA. TECH	+1	+3
MICH. STATE	+3	+2	WAKE FOREST	+0	+1
MINNESOTA	+0	+2	WASHINGTON	+8	+4
MISSISSIPPI	+0	+4	WASH. STATE	+0	+1
MISS. STATE	+0	+2	W. VIRGINIA	+0	+2
MISSOURI	+0	+1	WISCONSIN	+0	+1
NAVY	+0	+1	WYOMING	+1	+4
NEBRASKA	+10	+5	YALE	+2	+2
N. MEXICO	+0	+2			
N. CAROLINA	+1	+2			
N. C. STATE	+1	+2			
NORTHWESTERN	+0	+2			
NOTRE DAME	+9	+4			
OHIO STATE	+7	+4			
OKLAHOMA	+10	+7			
OKLA. STATE	+0	+2			
OREGON	+0	+1			
OREGON STATE	+0	+2			
PENN STATE	+10	+5			

The Firm home field values will remain without change, throughout the current season whereas the Moving ratings should be adjusted after the first three weeks and again after the seventh week. Ideally the TRUE home field advantage is somewhere between what we develop in terms of applied current research (Moving) and have obtained through past history (Firm). In the NFL, the home field gain credence as a handicapping factor as the season unfolds, being at its weakest point in the first four games.

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Final 1985 Ratings

These are the final 1985 Power Ratings of Major College Football teams, and are being provided for any research uses that you might have. Miami and Michigan had the highest power ratings, 95, and Columbia, as usual, the lowest, 31.

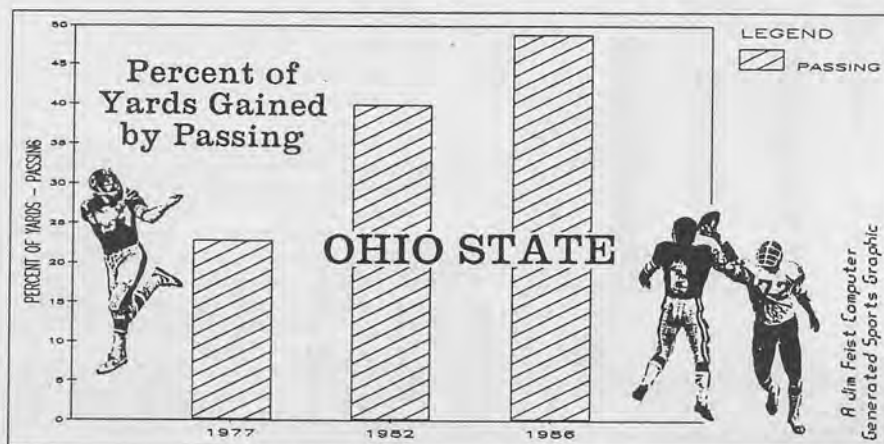
Air Force	87	Missouri	67
Alabama	89	Navy	74
Arizona	85	Nebraska	92
Ariz. St.	85	N. Mexico	63
Arkansas	85	N. Carolina	78
Army	80	N. C. State	70
Auburn	90	Northwestern	61
Baylor	85	Notre Dame	82
Boston Col.	73	Ohio State	87
B. Y. U.	89	Oklahoma	95
Brown	54	Okla. State	81
California	77	Oregon	76
Cincinnati	69	Oregon St.	60
Clemson	85	Penn State	90
Colgate	58	Penn	56
Colorado	78	Pittsburgh	77
Colo. St.	69	Princeton	52
Columbia	31	Purdue	80
Cornell	46	Rice	67
Dartmouth	46	Rutgers	67
Duke	72	S. D. State	74
E. Carolina	67	S. Carolina	77
Florida	90	S Calif.	86
Fla. State	89	S. Miss	82
Georgia	88	Stanford	76
Ga. Tech	85	Syracuse	83
Harvard	54	Temple	75
Hawaii	70	Tennessee	89
Holy Cross	63	Texas	85
Houston	69	Texas A&M	87
Illinois	84	T. C. U.	57
Indiana	72	Texas EPaso	53
Iowa	90	Texas Tech	73
Iowa State	61	Tulane	68
Kansas	72	Tulsa	69
Kansas St.	56	U C L A	90
Kentucky	78	Utah	76
L. S. U.	87	Vanderbilt	69
Louisville	54	Virginia	80
Maryland	88	Va. Tech	81
Memphis St.	73	Wake Forest	72
Miami-Fla	95	Washington	81
Michigan	95	Wash. State	81
Mich. State	85	W. Virginia	83
Minnesota	78	Wisconsin	73
Mississippi	70	Wyoming	72
Miss. State	77	Yale	49

Dominant Rushing Teams Starting to Lose Glamour to Aerial Circuses

In 1977, handicappers stayed as far away from passing teams as Joan Rivers does from Johnny Carson - and with very good reason, aerial-minded clubs were fun to watch, like a circus, but hardly profitable. The "Golden Rule" in college football was, simply, Running teams win, passing ones lose."

NCAA football is changing, and more and more teams are looking for throwers and catchers, and even programs like Ohio State, founded on the theory of "Three Yards and a Cloud of Dust," have begun to evolve to the skies. The graphic, immediate right, shows the percentage of yards that the Buckeyes gained passing in 1977, 1982 and 1986 - and the transfer from ground to air is very evident.

Overall, strictly passing teams still do not cover the spread as frequently as rushing



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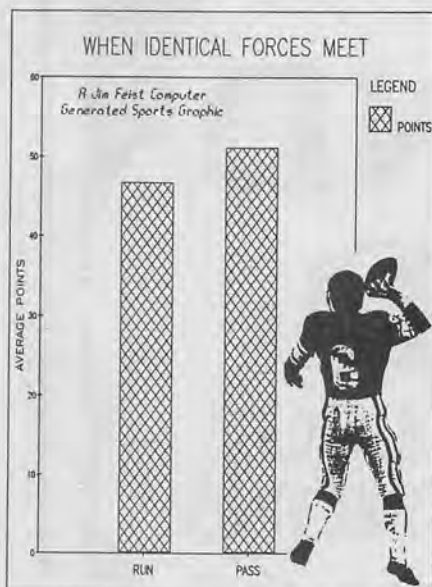
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prone teams - Oklahoma, Army, etc. - but the gap is narrowing. In 1986, teams that gained 63% or more of their total yards via the rush beat the line 80 of 148 times or 54%. Passing teams, those that gained 65% or more of their yards via the aerial, failed to cover on 87 of 168 line starts - beating the spread 48%. Most recognize that neither 54% nor 48% is valid enough to be of handicapping merit.

An astute handicapper realizes how much college football is changing, and he is discarding many past assumptions, such as looking for a low scoring contest when two all-run teams collide or teams that pass-pass-pass stand little chance when up against a foe that runs-runs-runs. College coaching strategy is now changing, going away from "brute force," and switching to quickness and speed; a number of last year's bowl games proved this point, very clearly.

Identical Forces Meet

One of the more surprising findings from the 1986 season, and it has been alive for two previous years, is that a game between two very dominant rushing teams will have nearly as many total points scored as will a contest between a pair of teams that resort, almost exclusively, to the pass. During 1986, 12 NCAA games were played between teams that each



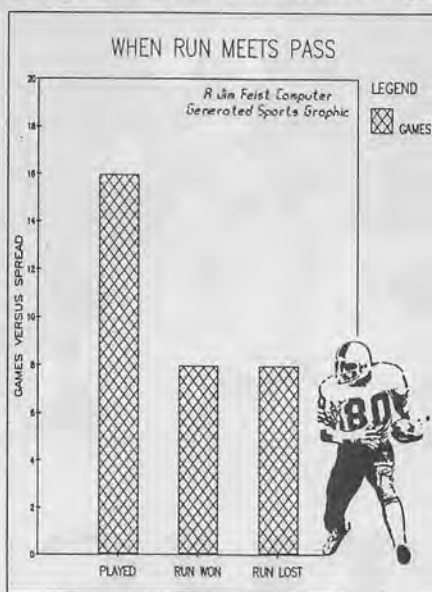
rushed the ball more than 63% of the plays from scrimmage, and the dozen games generated a total of 563 points or an average of 46.9 per game. This included rushing showdowns between Nebraska-Colorado, Nebraska-Oklahoma, Colorado-Oklahoma, Air Force-Army, Minnesota-Pacific, etc.

Ten games featured teams that used the pass more than 65% of the time, and their average was 51.3 points per start - a total that is only 4.4 points higher than the points tallied when all-rush units met. The passing clashes included: Oregon State-Oregon, Illinois-Purdue, Dartmouth-Columbia, South Carolina-Miami, UTEP-Wyoming, and three San Diego State games, among others.

The second incorrect opinion, among many handicappers, is that a rushing team will always beat a passing team - while recent experts have gone the other direction, stipulating, "Passing teams have

an edge because rushing teams are not used to this type of an attack."

The truth is, "Neither has an edge." In 1986, 16 games pitted strong rushing teams against strong passing teams, and they broke even against the spread. The passing winners were: South Carolina over Georgia,



South Carolina over Clemson, UTEP over Air Force, Kansas over Colorado, Oregon over Colorado, Miami over Oklahoma, Rice over TCU, and Colorado State over Colorado. The rushing winners were: Minnesota over Purdue, Southern Miss over Louisville, Missouri over Kansas, Nebraska over Kansas, Oklahoma over Kansas, Penn over Dartmouth, Nebraska over Illinois, and Penn over Columbia.

From the above description it is obvious that Colorado was the only all-rush team that had no luck against strictly passing teams.

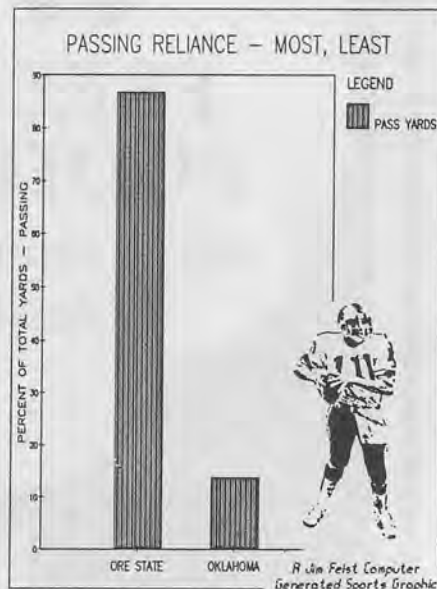
Individual Team Profiles

The following list shows the percentage of 1986 total yards that each team gained through passing and rushing, and should provide an understanding of how each coach views his team's offensive chances. The NCAA average is 52% of game yards being accumulated by passes, 48% via the run, and comparing individual team data will illuminate which schools are above or below the national norm.

Percent of Total Yards Gained by

	Pass	Rush
Air Force	24%	76%
Alabama	33%	67%
Arizona	41%	59%
Ariz. State	48%	52%
Arkansas	31%	69%
Army	21%	79%
Auburn	41%	59%
Baylor	53%	47%
Boston Col.	51%	49%
B. Y. U.	57%	43%
Brown	58%	42%
California	65%	35%
Cincinnati	63%	37%
Clemson	28%	72%
Colgate	44%	56%

	Pass	Rush
Colorado	21%	79%
Colo. State	65%	35%
Columbia	65%	35%
Cornell	53%	47%
Dartmouth	68%	32%
Duke	55%	45%
E. Carolina	41%	59%
Florida	58%	42%
Fla. State	49%	51%
Fresno St.	59%	41%
Fullerton	50%	50%
Georgia	36%	64%
Georgia Tech	41%	59%
Harvard	44%	56%
Hawaii	64%	36%
Holy Cross	59%	41%
Houston	38%	62%
Illinois	66%	34%
Indiana	47%	53%
Iowa	55%	45%
Iowa State	62%	38%
Kansas	69%	31%
Kansas St.	48%	52%
Kentucky	45%	55%
L. Beach S.	74%	26%
L. S. U.	58%	42%
Louisville	71%	29%
Maryland	63%	37%
Memphis St.	45%	55%
Miami-Fla	67%	33%
Michigan	50%	50%
Mich. State	61%	39%
Minnesota	35%	65%
Mississippi	50%	50%
Miss. State	43%	57%
Missouri	33%	67%
Navy	53%	47%
Nebraska	24%	76%
New Mexico	57%	43%
N. Mex. St.	52%	48%
N. Carolina	41%	59%
N. C. State	55%	45%
Northwestern	51%	49%
Notre Dame	54%	46%
Ohio State	49%	51%
Oklahoma	14%	86%



Oregon State and Oklahoma were at opposite ends of the plank when it came to utilizing the aerial in 1986. The Beavers gained 87% of its total yards through the skies while the Sooners employed the pass sparingly.

	Pass	Rush
Okla. State	59%	41%
Oregon	69%	31%
Oregon St.	87%	13%
Pacific	34%	66%
Penn	33%	67%
Penn State	40%	60%
Pittsburgh	64%	36%
Princeton	50%	50%
Purdue	77%	23%
Rice	66%	34%
Rutgers	53%	47%
S. D. State	70%	30%
S. Jose St.	64%	36%
S. Calif.	58%	42%
S. Carolina	71%	29%
S. Meth.	53%	47%
S. Miss.	37%	63%
Stanford	61%	39%
Syracuse	52%	48%
Temple	43%	57%
Tennessee	52%	48%
Texas	58%	42%
Texas A&M	56%	44%
T. C. U.	32%	68%
Texas E.P.	71%	29%
Texas Tech	52%	48%
Tulane	56%	44%
Tulsa	30%	70%
U C L A	45%	55%
Utah	67%	33%
Utah State	65%	35%
Vanderbilt	57%	43%
Virginia	57%	43%
Va. Tech	42%	58%
Wake Forest	60%	40%
Washington	51%	49%
Wash. State	57%	43%
W. Virginia	48%	52%
Wisconsin	46%	54%
Wyoming	71%	29%
Yale	61%	39%
NCAA Avg.	52%	48%

State, Arizona State, Kansas State, and West Virginia.

STRONG RELIANCE ON RUSHING: Indiana, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Memphis State, UCLA, Colgate, Harvard, Mississippi State, Temple, Virginia Tech, Arizona, Auburn, East Carolina, Georgia Tech,

North Carolina, Penn State, and Houston.

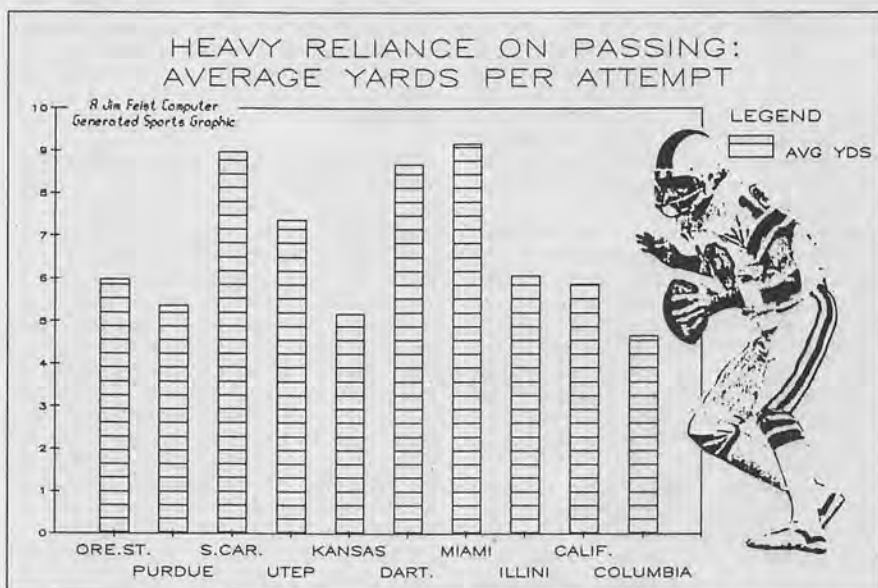
HEAVY RELIANCE ON RUSHING: Southern Miss, Georgia, Minnesota, Pacific, Alabama, Missouri, Penn, Texas Christian, Arkansas, Tulsa, Clemson, Air Force, Nebraska, Army, Colorado, and Oklahoma.

Not All Group Members Are Equal

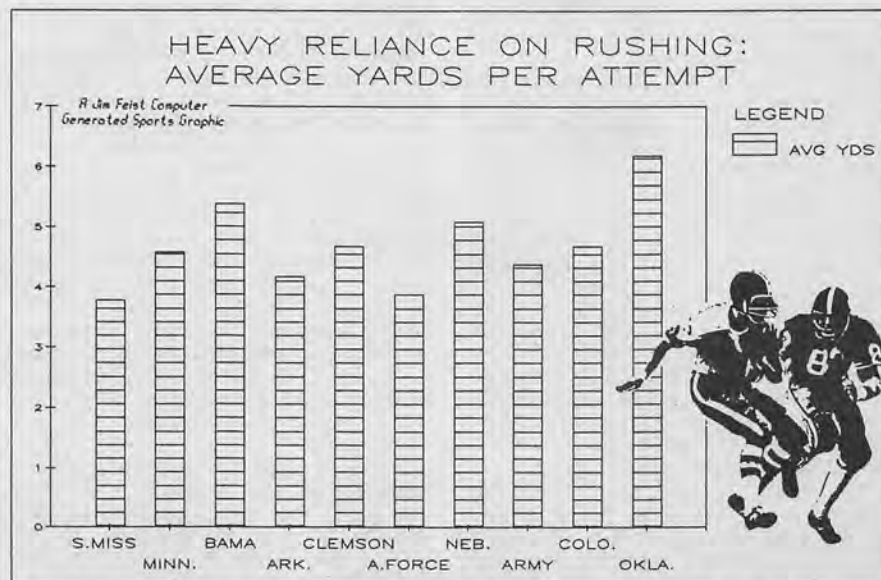
Members within each group are, of course, not all on the same level of efficiency; California and Miami, Fla., as an example, rely on the aerial in the majority of their offensive plays but their passing games are far from equal. In our statistical section, team data is broken down into numerous categories, and one that divides passing teams is, "Yards per Pass Attempt," a stat that shows how many yards are

gained for every pass that is attempted. Determining which of the rushing teams is actually the best can be subjected to "Average Yards per Rush Attempt."

Using these two guidelines, the following pair of graphics reveal what is actually taking place inside two very opposite offense groups, **Heavy Reliance on Passing** and **Heavy Reliance on Rushing**.



Among the teams that rely extensively on the pass, South Carolina, Miami and Dartmouth are the most effective - Purdue, Kansas and Columbia, the least. Oklahoma has the best rushing grade when compared to the other teams that employ the run far more often than the aerial, and Southern Miss has the lowest mark. Inside each group, similar comparisons can be made. Teams may desire to throw or run as a focal part of their attack, but getting beneficial results is not always guaranteed.



As the percentages reveal, teams approach football offense with varied attitudes, resorting from all-out to mixed to nearly ignoring the aerial game, and the NCAA can be divided into six main groups:

- 1: Heavy Reliance on Passing
- 2: Strong Reliance on Passing
- 3: Slight Edge to Passing
- 4: Slight Edge to Rushing
- 5: Strong Reliance on Rushing
- 6: Heavy Reliance on Rushing

Accordingly, here is a detailed listing of members in each offense sub-division:

HEAVY RELIANCE ON PASSING: Oregon State, Purdue, Long Beach State, Louisville, South Carolina, UTEP, Wyoming, San Diego State, Kansas, Oregon, Dartmouth, Miami-Florida, Utah, Illinois, Rice, California, Colorado State, Columbia, and Utah State.

STRONG RELIANCE ON PASSING: Hawaii, Pittsburgh, San Jose State, Cincinnati, Maryland, Iowa State, Michigan State, Stanford, Yale, Wake Forest, Fresno State, Holy Cross, Oklahoma State, Brown, Florida, LSU, USC, and Texas.

SLIGHT EDGE TO PASSING: BYU, New Mexico, Vanderbilt, Virginia, Washington State, Texas A&M, Tulane, Duke, Iowa, North Carolina State, Notre Dame, Baylor, Cornell, Navy, Rutgers, and SMU (now defunct).

SLIGHT EDGE TO RUSHING: New Mexico State, Syracuse, Tennessee, Texas Tech, Boston College, Northwestern, Washington, Fullerton State, Michigan, Mississippi, Princeton, Florida State, Ohio

Creative Methods for Picking College Football Winners

Not all handicappers are alike; some prefer to stick with the basics - using no fringe methods to make their selections - while others like to "tinker" around with new ideas and theories, extracting the best for their own, personal, development. Jim Feist Sports is constantly researching new avenues in college football handicapping, and here is a brief sketch of the various statistical tools currently being developed, and studied. These, naturally, are aimed at handicappers who want to "take the ball and run."

RESCORING GAMES: In the opening week of the 1986 season, Maryland played at Pittsburgh and won the game, 10-7, but the game's stats seem to indicate that the wrong team came out on top. The Terrapins gained 294 yards, Pittsburgh, 377, and with an 83 yard advantage, the Panthers should have fared better than just seven points.

Jim Feist Sports' research has indicated that the final score of a game should have some relativity to the percentage of total yards that each team gains, and you can rescore a game with this theory. Pittsburgh, in this game, gained 377 of the contest's 671 yards or 56%; therefore, Pitt should have scored 56% of the game's total points, and Maryland, 44%. The final score of this particular game was not relative to the yardage dispersion.

Before rescoring, find out what the total number of points in a game should have been, using the barometer that every 100 yards gained, by both teams, translates to 14.2 points. In the Pitt-Maryland clash, only 17 points were tallied which is far too low for the total yards. Normally, 671 yards will see 47.2 total game points; dividing game yards by 14.2.

Therefore, we establish the Pitt-Maryland game as having 47 points scored, and our yardage breakdown assigns 56% of the offense to the Panthers, 44% to the Terps. The rescoring is simple, give Pitt 56% of the total points that SHOULD have been scored, and the remainder to Maryland. When this is done, Pittsburgh is logged as the winner, 26-21.

This is a case of the wrong team having won the game, and the method does not take turnovers into consideration because, for the most part, they are unpredictable. Often, you will find a game where a team won - but the winning margin was not as great as it should have been. Such was the case, September 27, when Texas A&M lured past Southern Miss, 16-7. The Aggies registered 79% of the game's 471 total yards, yet came away with a weak, nine-point victory. Under normal conditions, a game with 471 yards will net a total of 33 points or 10 more than were actually scored. As A&M accounted for 79% of the game yardage, they should have tallied 79% of the points, or a rescore of Texas A&M 26, Southern Miss 7.

The concept is very good for not only proving out a final score, but getting an objective difference between the teams. Take an early season game between West Virginia and Pittsburgh, won by the

Panthers, 48-16 - a margin of 32 points. Ask, "Is this a usable margin or is it either inflated or deflated?" The game saw 831 total yards or an expectation of 59 points, and Pittsburgh gained 66% of those yards. Subsequently, Pitt should be awarded 66% of the game's refigured 59 points or a final of: Pitt 39, West Virginia 20. We conclude, for our records, that Pitt is 19 points better than the Mountaineers, not 32 as the actual game final would indicate.

Rescoring is not only informative, it is fascinating, and many who have been acquainted with it are going back through football history, rescoring games with the zeal of a child finding a new toy under the Christmas tree. Rescoring is highly contagious.

RESCORING AND THE PREVIOUS YEAR: Another nifty little tool is using the rescoring technique, just explained, to determine a logical verdict in this year's game, taking the previous meeting between the two teams into consideration. As a hypothetical illustration, you are interested in a contest between UCLA and USC, and we know that the last time they played, 1986, UCLA won, 45-25, and gained 512 of the game's 756 total yards or 67%. Based on the 14.2 points for every 100 yards, the game could be best recorded as having 53 total points - allocating 36 to UCLA, and the remaining, 17, to Southern California. At the time this game was played, UCLA had a Power Rating of 91, and USC, 87.

What is important is the CURRENT power rating of the teams, as of the date of the game we are handicapping. UCLA, perhaps, has climbed to a current 93, and USC slipped to 86. The Bruins are currently two points better than when the teams last met, USC is one worse. This is a THREE POINT CHANGE, and we apply this change to the rescore result we obtained. When they last met, UCLA won by 19 (36-17), but has an additional three point edge over the Trojans, leading us to the conclusion, all other things being equal, UCLA could win this game by 22.

DUE THEORY HANDICAPPING: Due Theory is not new to handicapping, only new to those who have been afraid to guesstimate the future. The Theory is just what its name implies, forecasting what is due to get a team back to its established norm. The idea works well when applied to weekly statistics, scores, power ratings, passing and rushing data, etc. As an example of how it works, let's take a team that has individual game ratings of 80, 83, 76, and 82. Over this four week span, the team has averaged 80 - which is the sum of the four weeks (321) divided by games played (4). The goal is to try to predict what its rating is most likely to be in the fifth week - the game we are handicapping.

Obtain its total for only the last two games played, the 76 and 82 - and that adds to 158. Our team, over the four week span, has averaged 80 per week, so in a three week period it should total 240 power points; the average multiplied by a

constant of three. This team has generated 158 points in the last two games, and needs to play at an 82 rate - just to retain its 80 average. The forthcoming game's rate is subtracting the TOTAL of the last two from the FOUR GAME AVERAGE multiplied by three.

Due Theory is educated guessing, and is used to find out what kind of a statistic or performance a team needs to return to its established norm.

POWER RATING HANDICAPPING: There is a way to combine Power Rating handicapping and individual game statistics, and the beginning point, again, is to obtain a rescore of the game, and then adjust according to the current power rating of the two teams involved. As an example, take the 1986 season opening contest between Miami of Florida, and South Carolina. As of the game date, the Hurricanes were rated 95, and Carolina, 77. In the contest, Miami gained 400 of the 659 total yards or 61%. With the game seeing an adjusted total of 46 points, the Hurricanes won the rescore, 28-18.

Miami, against a 77-rated team, won by a margin of ten points, and South Carolina, against a 95-rated team, lost by ten. To get a readjusted power rating for Miami, add the margin (+10) to the power rating of South Carolina (77) for a final index of 87. South Carolina gets its margin in the game (-10) subtracted from Miami's power of 95, yielding a final of 85. The method, in this case, says, "Against a 77-rated opponent, Miami played like an 87-rated team, and South Carolina, against a 95-rated team, played at an 85 performance level."

Because of time limitations, many handicappers want to stick with Power Ratings - and ignore any statistical data. Their dilemma is how to adjust the ratings each week, based on results. The solution is simple, and requires only the final scores of games, and generates a standard adjustment that is based on when the game is played.

The adjustment procedure begins with an expected margin difference in the game, and concludes with an adjustment from

First Three Weeks

Difference	Adjustment
+7 or More	+2
+3 to +6	+1
-2 to +2	+0
-3 to -8	-1
-7 or More	-2

Rest of Season

Difference	Adjustment
+4 or More	+1
-3 to +3	+0
-4 or More	-1

this table. When Alabama played Ohio State, on a neutral site, Bama came into the game with a 1986 first-week power rating of 89, and Ohio had an 87. Therefore, with no home field provision added, the Tide should win the game by 2 - if our power ratings are correct.

The actual final was Alabama on top, 16-10, or a margin of six points; Bama being +6, the Bucks, -6. Compare the actual margin to the expected margin, and get a point difference. Alabama was handicapped to win by two, but won by six, or Bama played FOUR points better than we anticipated, and Ohio played FOUR worse. Going to the table, using the heading for the first three weeks, we see that a +4 (difference of actual over expected margin) nets a power rating boost of +1. Subsequently, Ohio will get a -1, being -4 on the margin comparison.

For the next games, Alabama will increase by one point to a power rating of 90, and Ohio will lower one, dropping to 86.

The following week, as a further example, Ohio played at Washington, and the power rating line had Washington coming into the game with an 81 - using the ending rating from 1985 - and Ohio was set with 86. We add four to the Huskies for home field, applying the Firm Home Field adjustment, giving them a rating of 85. We expect a margin of Ohio to win by one, 86-85.

However, the Buckeyes could do nothing right, Washington nothing wrong, and the Huskies drilled Ohio, 40-7. This was a 33-point margin, and Washington played 34 points better than we expected, Ohio 34 worse. Going to the same chart, Washington will increase two rating points, moving from 81 to 83, and Ohio loses two, sliding from 86 to 84.

After the first three weeks of the season, use the second set of numbers which restricts adjustments even more - never allowing an increase of more than +1 or a decrease of more than -1.

The important element is to always compare the actual margin to what you anticipated, and adjust, accordingly.

PREDICTING ACTUAL FINAL SCORES: Ideally, predicting an actual final score, instead of a line difference, would be far more advantageous to the handicapper, but it is very difficult to achieve. If you are seeking guidelines in this direction, try this method - it requires two sets of information; first, each team's current scoring average on offense and defense, and average opponent power rating.

An illustration - Alabama is playing Auburn in the last week of 1986, and the Tide comes into the game with a scoring average of 29-12, and has faced an average opponent rated at 81. Auburn has a scoring average of 36-9, with an opponent rating of 75.

Alabama is outscoring foes by 17 per game, and Auburn by even a greater margin, 27, but has played a weaker slate of teams. We need to take this into consideration in predicting our final.

First, we get a Raw Final on the game, which is no more than adding one team's offensive points to the other's defense, and dividing by two. Alabama scores 29 per game, Auburn allows nine. The math has $29 + 9$ divided by two, or an Alabama raw final of 19. Auburn scores 36 and the Tide allows 12 - which translates into an

Auburn raw final of $(36+12)/2$ or 24.

At this point, with nothing else figured in, Auburn will beat Alabama by five, 24-19. However, whom each team has played is very important because it is the value of each opponent that has led, directly, to the current scoring averages - and we must account for this.

The Crimson Tide (or Red Elephants, as history remembers them) played an 81-rated schedule, Auburn, 75, and this is a difference of SIX points - a substantial difference, in fact. Therefore, we adjust Alabama's final score by +6, and reduce Auburn's by -6 - placing heavy emphasis on the quality of schedules.

This brings about a re-tuned final of Alabama $(19+6)$, 25, Auburn $(24-6)$, 18. We have changed what appeared to be a five

point Auburn win, based on scoring averages, to a six point Alabama victory.

On this same weekend, ten other important games were played, and this procedure was worked out on each game, suggesting: Florida over Florida State, 26-20; Georgia over Tech, 27-16; Houston to paddy Rice, 26-18; LSU manhandling Tulane, 36-11; USC to nip the Irish, 22-20; Tennessee barely getting by Vanderbilt, 26-21; Oklahoma State whirlpooling Iowa State, 26-17, and Navy to ground Army, 27-26.

Obviously, some of the scores were fairly accurate, some not, but the system does provide a certain degree of insight, and brings scoring data and scheduling into a more precise perspective.

Offense, Defense Merge in Double Digit Handicapping

The practicality of "double digit" handicapping is that it generates both a power rating and a scoring average reading at the same moment, and it is very easy to keep up with as a season progresses.

Each team, based on its previous season's scoring average, is assigned an index for Offense and Defense, and the indexes are modified, each week, as results appear.

The use is extremely fast, subtracting the road team's defense number from the home team's offense, and the difference is what the method expects the home team to score.

As a learning device, here is a workout on the East Rutherford opener between Iowa and Tennessee. The Hawks, in 1986, beat opponents by an average of 32-16 while the Vols maintained a scoring profile of 25-21.

Based on the INDEX TABLE, an offense that tallies 32 points gets a rating of 57, and a defense that permits 16 gets 36. Our pre-game index for Iowa is: 57-36. Tennessee, following the same procedure, gets an offense rating of 50, and defense, 31.

Our basic final score is obtained by subtracting Tennessee's defense rating (31) from Iowa's offense (57), for an Iowa projection of 26 points. The Vols' offense, 50, minus Iowa's defense, 36, yields a Tennessee projection of 14 points. Our indicated final is Iowa to win, 26-14.

After the game has been played, obtain the margin and make adjustments to each team's offense and defense, per the adjustment table. As an example, if Iowa wins, 34-10, the Hawks would have scored eight points more than expected, and the adjustment table calls for their offense index to rise one point, and the Vols' defense index to drop one. Tennessee, in this sample final, scored four points less than expected, and the table tells you to leave its offense, and Iowa's defense, index as is, unchanged. A positive adjustment to an offense will see a negative adjustment to the opposing team's defense, while a negative offense adjustment will always see a positive defense adjustment on the other side. The only time that no ratings change is when the teams score within five points of what was expected.

After using the adjustment table, you

change the indexes (offense and defense) for each team, and you have new ratings for the coming week. The most time consuming task is prior to the start of the season when you have to convert team scoring averages into the "double digit" indexes, and for those who wish to pursue this new concept, Jim Feist Sports has converted 1986 final averages into 1987 beginning indexes.

Index Tables

Points	Offense	Defense
40	65	12
39	64	13
38	63	14
37	62	15
36	61	16
35	60	17
34	59	18
33	58	19
32	57	20
31	56	21
30	55	22
29	54	23
28	53	24
27	52	25
26	51	26
25	50	27
24	49	28
23	48	29
22	47	30
21	46	31
20	45	32
19	44	33
18	43	34
17	42	35
16	41	36
15	40	37
14	39	38
13	38	39
12	37	40
11	36	41
10	35	42
9	34	43
8	33	44
7	32	45

Adjustment Table

Mar-Var	Winner	Loser
+10 - UP	Off+2	Def-2
+6 to +9	Off+1	Def-1
-5 to +5	Off+0	Def+0

The primary strength of this method is that, as team scoring changes, the indexes also adjust - being self-correcting as the year churns along the path to Bowldom. A team may start with a high offense index, say a 58, but it must keep scoring at that level to hold the hefty plateau, and a rapid decline in scoring will see the football team plunge down the ladder.

The weakness of the idea is its inability to take quality of schedule into consideration, although you can build this into the model, if desired. As an illustrative point, if Harvard and Michigan were to play, you would wind up with a final, predicted score of 22-2, and everyone in the free world would love to lay just 20 points and take Michigan!

Team scoring margins are constructed against the quality of opposition that each club faces, and Harvard's indexes were set versus a variety of teams that could hardly be construed as being of Michigan's calibre.

When teams are playing FAR out of their class, you can add 30 points to the higher quality team, and if teams are somewhat outmanned, such as Navy versus Notre Dame, a bonus of 15 points for the better team is not unwarranted.

And, this method can be extended to the NFL, again setting up the teams based on their ending scoring averages from the 1986 professional season. All the steps are the same, including weekly adjustments based on actual game results.

"Double Digit" handicapping was created when handicappers expressed a desire to couple power ratings and scoring averages into a single index, thusly providing them with a line, potential margin and "over-under" statement at the same time.

These researchers also desired a method that did not take many hours to update, and record new indexes.

Team	Offense	Defense
Air Force	46	32
Alabama	52	39
Arizona	54	35
Ariz. St.	57	38
Arkansas	53	39
Army	50	25
Auburn	59	42
Baylor	53	34
Boston Col.	53	33
B. Y. U.	50	35
Brown	44	34
California	38	22
Cincinnati	49	21
Clemson	49	37
Colgate	53	27
Colorado	46	36
Colo. St.	49	30
Columbia	34	14
Cornell	45	42
Dartmouth	44	25
Duke	43	26
E. Carolina	42	19
Florida	45	36
Fla. State	58	33
Fresno St.	52	38
Fullerton	47	22
Georgia	51	33
Ga. Tech	51	33
Harvard	39	33
Hawaii	45	32
Holy Cross	54	39
Houston	36	28
Illinois	42	25
Indiana	49	34
Iowa	57	36
Iowa St.	48	30
Kansas	35	22
Kan. State	37	21
Kentucky	46	33
L. Beach St.	48	28
L. S. U.	51	38
Louisville	41	24
Maryland	49	33
Memphis St.	34	25
Miami-Fla.	63	40
Michigan	55	37
Mich. St.	51	34
Minnesota	47	25
Mississippi	45	38
Miss. State	43	27
Missouri	43	23

Double Digit Beginning Ratings for 1987



Team	Offense	Defense
Navy	47	24
Nebraska	63	38
N. Mexico	51	24
N. Mex. St.	42	14
N. Carolina	51	29
N. C. State	53	29
Northwest'n	45	29
Notre Dame	52	32
Ohio State	52	38
Oklahoma	65	45
Okl. St.	44	23
Oregon	46	21
Ore. State	38	27
Pacific	50	28
Penn	52	41
Penn State	55	41
Pittsburgh	48	33
Princeton	37	26
Purdue	40	22
Rice	42	22
Rutgers	45	35
S.D. State	48	30
S. Jose St.	58	32
S. Calif.	48	32
S. Carolina	53	26
S. Miss.	43	29
Stanford	48	37
Syracuse	47	28
Temple	53	27
Tennessee	50	31
Texas	46	30
Texas A&M	58	35
T. C. U.	49	18
Texas E.P.	51	19
Texas Tech	48	29
Tulane	49	22
Tulsa	52	35
UCLA	57	33
Utah	50	12
Utah St.	37	30
Vanderbilt	43	20
Virginia	43	23
Va. Tech	49	35
W. Forest	55	25
Washington	59	37
Wash. St.	45	24
W. Virginia	44	26
Wisconsin	42	30
Wyoming	50	29
Yale	42	30

A Synopsis of 1986 Postseason Football

Underdogs did not relish the 1986-87 postseason in either the NFL or NCAA, with favorites winning 15 of the 27 contests, and a pair ending in ties. The collegiate choices covered the spread in ten of 18 with one deadlock, while the professional picks nailed the line in five of nine with a tie.

The bowl season began with San Jose State, a seven point choice over Miami, Ohio, winning, easily, 37-7, and was followed by the Independence Bowl where Mississippi beat Texas Tech but lost to the line after being made a four point favorite. The Hall of Fame ended with Georgia, -3, being upset by Boston College, 27-24, and favored Alabama (-3) muzzled Washington, 28-6. Clemson (-3) jumped to an early lead in the Gator Bowl versus Stanford, then hung on for a 27-21 win while Arizona did the same thing against North Carolina, claiming a 30-21 win but a spread tie, being favored by

nine.

The Liberty went to Tennessee (-6) over Minnesota, 21-14, and UCLA (-12) had an easy time with BYU, 31-10, in the Freedom Bowl, while Iowa failed to cover (-7) in a wild, woolly 39-38 thriller over San Diego State in the Holiday. The All-American was won by Florida State (-13) over Indiana, 27-13, and Baylor (-7) beat Colorado in the Bluebonnet, 21-9. Virginia Tech (+2) upset North Carolina State in the Peach, 25-24, and Auburn coasted past USC, 16-7, as Citrus fans watched the medium priced favorite win.

Ohio State beat Texas A&M, 28-12, as a three point underdog in the Cotton, and Arizona State did the same thing to Michigan in the Rose. State was a two point underdog. Two Big Eight favorites, Nebraska and Oklahoma, rolled to wins over Arkansas and LSU. The Huskers, -3, beat the Bengals, 30-15, while the Sooners (-15) blasted the Hogs, 42-8.

The hype bowl was the Fiesta, held a day later to ensure maximum exposure, and Penn State (+6) throttled Vinny T. and Miami, 14-10.

In the NFL, Washington (-4) beat the Rams, 19-7, and the Jets (-1) scalped Kansas City, 35-15, to open the playoffs. In the next round, Cleveland (-6) edged the Jets, 23-20; Washington (+13) shocked the Bears, 27-13; New York Giants (-3) sunk the 49ers, 49-3, and Denver (-5) escaped New England, 22-17.

The conference championships saw Denver (+3) scoring late to nip Cleveland, 23-20, and the Giants (-7) blanked Washington, 17-0. And, finally, in the Super Bowl, New York (-10) messed up the Broncos, 39-20.

The regular NFL and NCAA seasons have been detailed in weekly game summaries that are included in Jim Feist's 1987 Football Annual, and handicappers will find them to be invaluable.

Weekly Diary of Major NCAA Teams

The **Weekly Diary** has game statistical summaries from the 1986 season, and includes results for the top 84 college teams, listed below. The game data relate 1: Final Score (F); 2: Total Plays (TP); 3: Total Yards (TY), and 4: Turnovers (TO). The contests are reviewed in chronological order, beginning with the Kickoff Classic, August 27, in East Rutherford (Alabama versus Ohio State) and concluding with Michigan playing at Hawaii.



AIR FORCE
ALABAMA
ARIZONA
ARIZONA STATE
ARKANSAS
ARMY
AUBURN
BAYLOR
BOSTON COLLEGE
BROWN
CALIFORNIA
CINCINNATI
CLEMSON
COLORADO
COLUMBIA
CORNELL
DARTMOUTH
DUKE
EAST CAROLINA
FLORIDA
FLORIDA STATE
GEORGIA
GEORGIA TECH
HARVARD
HOUSTON
ILLINOIS
INDIANA
IOWA

IOWA STATE
KANSAS
KANSAS STATE
KENTUCKY
LOUISIANA STATE
LOUISVILLE
MARYLAND
MEMPHIS STATE
MIAMI-FLORIDA
MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN STATE
MINNESOTA
MISSISSIPPI
MISSISSIPPI STATE
MISSOURI
NAVY
NEBRASKA
NORTH CAROLINA
NORTH CAROLINA STATE
NORTHWESTERN
NOTRE DAME
OHIO STATE
OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA STATE
OREGON
OREGON STATE
PENNSYLVANIA
PENN STATE

PITTSBURGH
PRINCETON
PURDUE
RICE
RUTGERS
SOUTH CAROLINA
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
SOUTHERN METHODIST
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI
STANFORD
SYRACUSE
TEMPLE
TENNESSEE
TEXAS
TEXAS A&M
TEXAS CHRISTIAN
TEXAS TECH
TULANE
UCLA
VANDERBILT
VIRGINIA
VIRGINIA TECH
WAKE FOREST
WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE
WEST VIRGINIA
WISCONSIN
YALE

	F	TP	TY	TO
N. E. Louis.	19	87	471	3
S. Miss	28	66	336	1
Duke	17	68	272	3
Northwest'n	6	72	342	4
Louisville	0	60	100	4
Illinois	23	68	387	1
Fla. State	17	48	173	0
Nebraska	34	79	409	1
UCLA	3	54	155	6
Oklahoma	38	82	479	2
Air Force	23	84	364	1
UTEP	21	70	371	5
Baylor	31	95	556	3
Wyoming	28	74	409	5
Colo. State	23	76	285	2
Colorado	7	63	304	6
Lamar	14	55	121	2
Rice	28	74	436	5
Kansas St.	7	70	250	4
Texas Tech	41	98	440	2
Okl. State	21	73	298	3
SW Louis.	20	80	424	3
Houston	3	69	246	4
Arizona	37	79	412	2
Oregon	21	77	296	1
S. Jose St.	14	63	316	4
UNLV	14	71	298	1
Wash St.	34	64	349	0
Wisconsin	17	57	179	1
Hawaii	20	79	437	6

GAMES SEPTEMBER 13.

	F	TP	TY	TO
Va. Tech	20	61	324	0
Clemson	14	79	346	2
Duke	7	63	176	3
Georgia	31	83	471	4
West Va.	24	88	440	3
E. Carolina	21	68	438	2
Furman	17	79	284	3
Ga. Tech	17	62	210	4
Syracuse	28	57	337	0
Army	33	87	480	2
California	15	59	137	3
Boston Col.	21	75	314	2
Boston U.	0	88	282	1
W. Forest	31	74	346	2
Miami, Oh.	38	68	526	2
Cincinnati	45	85	647	2
Virginia	10	67	338	3
Navy	20	82	415	3
Rutgers	16	71	298	2
Kentucky	16	71	430	4
S. Miss	17	54	206	2
Alabama	31	82	515	3
Ark. State	30	73	387	2
Memphis St.	10	60	261	3
Texas A&M	17	79	361	5
LSU	35	58	421	2
Vanderbilt	21	74	303	3
Maryland	35	91	488	1
Texas Tech	11	59	317	4
Miami-Fla	61	68	538	3
Miss. St.	27	65	408	1
Tennessee	23	66	393	1
Pittsburgh	14	81	399	2
N.C. State	14	86	229	1
W. Carolina	24	65	322	2
S. Carolina	45	85	473	2
TCU	48	62	557	3
Tulane	31	94	564	1
Temple	49	62	418	1
W. Michigan	17	68	281	2
Louisville	0	67	273	2
Indiana	21	76	361	1
Iowa State	7	61	125	1
Iowa	43	83	580	3

GAMES, AUG. 27 to SEPTEMBER 1

	F	TP	TY	TO
Alabama	16	69	295	4
Ohio State	10	64	316	3
Ga. South.	14	63	271	3
Florida	38	72	418	1
Miami-Fla	34	72	400	3
S. Carolina	14	70	259	4
Toledo	0	65	199	3
Fla. State	24	84	529	6
W. Illinois	7	74	378	9
Kansas St.	35	72	382	2
Hawaii	17	69	210	2
Air Force	24	71	238	3
Maryland	10	70	294	2
Pittsburgh	7	75	377	1

GAMES SEPTEMBER 6

	F	TP	TY	TO
UT Chattanooga	14	79	286	4
Auburn	42	72	415	6
Cincinnati	24	81	508	3
Va. Tech	20	74	456	2

	F	TP	TY	TO
Vanderbilt	10	82	362	2
Alabama	42	50	405	0
Miami-Fla	23	65	308	4
Florida	15	73	196	4
Miss. St.	24	72	298	0
Syracuse	17	66	294	3
Memphis St.	6	60	123	2
Ole Miss	28	64	396	4
E. Carolina	10	66	306	5
N.C. State	38	67	351	2
Citadel	14	68	235	2
N. Carolina	45	76	613	1
Temple	14	81	333	3
Penn State	45	71	470	2
Rutgers	11	72	270	3
Boston Col.	9	68	254	2
N. Mexico	21	76	392	2
Tennessee	35	78	384	0
S. Carolina	20	68	342	4
Virginia	30	81	539	2
Appl. St.	13	77	376	1
W. Forest	21	62	396	3
N. Illinois	14	76	269	2
West Va.	47	67	530	2



	F	TP	TY	TO
N. Carolina	20	73	361	1
Kansas	0	76	388	5
N. Iowa	17	83	445	3
Kansas St.	0	59	154	4
Purdue	20	69	301	3
Batt. St.	3	65	217	2
Bow. Green	7	67	202	5
Minnesota	31	73	411	5
Michigan	24	71	393	1
N. Dame	23	72	425	3
Utah St.	10	72	271	2
Missouri	24	61	253	0
N. Illinois	20	72	331	2
Wisconsin	35	65	394	2
Okl. St.	23	79	366	4
Tulsa	27	78	426	5
S M U	45	75	513	4
Rice	3	71	204	3
Ole Miss	0	62	189	2
Arkansas	21	75	294	2
La. Tech	7	61	54	3
Baylor	38	84	422	4
Stanford	31	67	354	1
Texas	20	90	405	5
Colorado	30	63	386	4
Oregon	32	81	415	3
Ore. State	0	69	286	1
Fresno St.	27	77	412	2
Illinois	16	80	298	3
U S C	31	78	456	4
Colo. St.	10	72	164	2
Arizona	37	71	348	1
Mich. St.	17	65	315	1
Ariz. St.	20	68	281	1
Ohio State	7	53	186	3
Washington	40	79	408	3
S. Jose St.	20	81	423	3
Wash. State	13	70	346	2

GAMES

SEPTEMBER 20

	F	TP	TY	TO
Penn State	26	78	197	2
Boston Col.	14	73	408	1
Yale	7	56	211	2
Brown	21	72	366	5
Cincinnati	28	75	400	3
Rutgers	48	66	432	0
Columbia	0	55	140	3
Harvard	34	87	415	2
Princeton	8	61	246	4
Cornell	39	70	419	0
Penn	21	66	365	2
Dartmouth	7	64	274	0
Maryland	24	72	370	2
West Va.	3	74	308	2
Fla. A&M	17	80	336	2
Temple	38	70	525	3
Va. Tech	26	71	486	2
Syracuse	17	72	328	3
Alabama	21	68	343	3
Florida	7	59	277	1
E. Carolina	0	60	171	1
Auburn	45	72	478	1
Clemson	31	55	428	5
Georgia	28	65	383	4
Ohio U.	7	72	260	3
Duke	22	63	396	1
N. Carolina	10	71	270	3
Fla. State	10	59	335	3
Ga. Tech	28	79	385	1
Virginia	14	71	366	8
Kent St.	12	60	317	2
Kentucky	37	73	429	2
Miami, Oh.	35	53	209	3
L S U	44	83	407	7
West Ky.	6	76	228	2
Louisville	45	77	521	0

	F	TP	TY	TO
SW Louis.	36	71	308	2
Memphis St.	10	77	263	2
Miss. St.	24	65	373	2
S. Miss	28	74	418	2
Ark. State	10	75	270	3
Ole Miss	10	61	191	4
W. Forest	38	90	561	1
N.C. State	42	77	498	2
Tulane	35	71	487	3
Vanderbilt	17	82	475	7
Army	18	68	188	2
Northwest'n	25	82	422	0
Colorado	10	56	235	4
Ohio St.	13	67	233	1
Houston	28	61	393	0
Okl. State	12	79	351	1
Nebraska	59	79	543	3
Illinois	14	69	207	3
Navy	29	63	335	4
Indiana	52	80	532	1
Indiana St.	9	76	218	3
Iowa State	64	75	451	1
N. Illinois	3	62	159	5
Iowa	57	62	465	2
Utah State	13	50	77	4
Kansas	16	82	245	3
N. Dame	15	72	341	3
Mich. St.	20	67	284	2
Ore. State	12	80	320	3
Michigan	31	62	360	2
Minnesota	0	62	146	4
Oklahoma	63	79	523	3
Texas	27	86	444	2
Missouri	25	62	312	3
Pittsburgh	41	73	276	2
Purdue	26	73	320	7
Wyoming	23	81	354	1
Air Force	17	61	263	2
Tulsa	17	63	348	3
Arkansas	34	80	437	2
U S C	17	59	197	2
Baylor	14	85	408	1
Kansas St.	22	68	347	4
T C U	35	77	487	2
N. Mexico	7	68	314	3
Texas Tech	14	86	439	2
N. Texas St.	28	70	226	1
Texas A&M	48	80	458	3
Wisconsin	7	72	324	3
UNLV	17	58	318	2
S M U	0	73	255	4
Ariz. St.	30	72	307	0
Arizona	41	91	546	1
Oregon	17	57	285	2
B Y U	21	55	225	4
Washington	52	74	413	1
Wash. St.	21	82	360	3
California	31	72	356	3
U C L A	45	67	381	1
S. D. State	14	67	172	2
S. Jose St.	10	76	383	7
Stanford	28	83	363	2

GAMES

SEPTEMBER 27

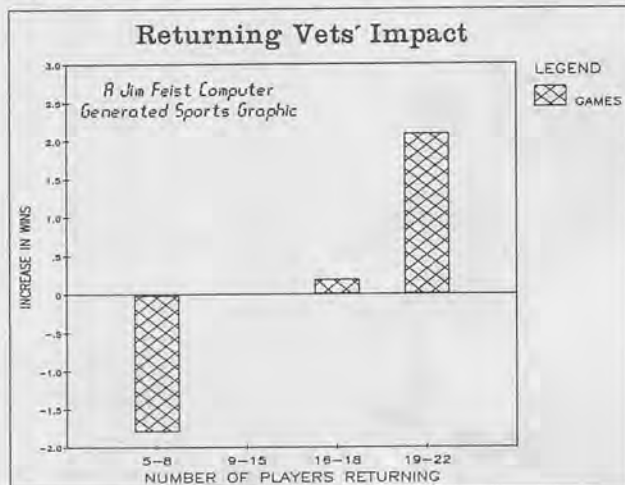
	F	TP	TY	TO
Brown	27	64	366	4
R. Island	7	72	242	3
Univ Conn.	17	65	321	2
Yale	12	70	325	3
Cornell	21	79	469	2
Colgate	12	68	316	4
Holy Cross	41	88	478	3
Harvard	0	66	219	11
Lafayette	26	57	382	2
Columbia	21	89	468	1
Lehigh	0	75	234	6
Navy	41	80	443	3

	F	TP	TY	TO
N. Hamp.	66	82	529	3
Dartmouth	12	61	401	7
Northwest'n	37	68	349	3
Princeton	0	60	190	7
Bucknell	7	58	221	0
Penn	10	64	303	0
E. Carolina	17	68	200	3
Penn St.	42	77	432	2
West Va.	16	68	282	2
Pittsburgh	48	75	549	2
Rutgers	16	75	343	1
Syracuse	10	62	316	3
E. Tenn.	10	76	282	4
Va. Tech	37	68	355	2
W. Forest	49	87	503	2
Army	14	58	293	3
Tennessee	8	59	290	2
Auburn	34	74	419	0
Clemson	27	82	386	1
Ga. Tech	3	51	222	2
Virginia	13	67	334	2
Duke	20	64	378	2
Georgia	31	77	443	6
S. Carolina	26	64	446	6
Kentucky	37	67	288	1
Cincinnati	20	68	423	3
Memphis St.	8	69	274	3
Louisville	34	81	483	2
Oklahoma	16	61	276	4
Miami-Fla.	28	65	314	1
Tulane	10	76	289	3
Ole Miss	35	64	361	3
Florida	10	67	207	4
Miss. St.	16	72	399	4
N.C. State	28	69	427	3
Maryland	16	89	431	5
Indiana	41	70	467	2
Missouri	24	84	390	4
U T E P	7	61	150	6
Utah	69	76	619	2
Wich. St.	14	65	255	2
Iowa St.	36	77	383	2
Ind. St.	6	89	348	2
Kansas	20	62	401	3

	F	TP	TY	TO
Fla. State	18	60	285	4
Michigan	20	72	332	1
W. Mich.	10	67	291	3
Mich. St.	45	77	626	3
Oregon	14	70	271	6
Nebraska	48	80	396	3
Purdue	9	65	295	3
N. Dame	41	76	478	1
Utah	6	68	351	4
Ohio St.	64	86	715	1
Ill. St.	7	55	158	4
Okl. State	23	73	317	0
Pacific	24	86	420	1
Minnesota	20	64	386	3
Wyoming	21	82	451	8
Wisconsin	12	73	227	1
Colo. St.	7	58	236	1
Air Force	24	82	272	1
Arizona	24	78	425	2
Colorado	21	52	246	1
N. Mex. St.	11	68	183	4
Arkansas	42	69	391	1
Baylor	45	85	568	3
Texas Tech	14	79	361	6
Temple	17	66	212	0
B Y U	27	69	383	3
T C U	21	69	303	1
S M U	31	77	431	2
SW Tex. St.	31	81	415	3
Rice	6	57	330	6
S. Miss	7	52	99	0
Texas A&M	16	80	372	1
Tulsa	24	80	363	2
Houston	14	62	229	5
Wash. St.	21	69	345	0
Ariz. St.	21	63	370	5
S. Jose St.	35	101	565	2
California	14	67	336	3
Washington	10	68	287	4
U S C	20	71	367	2
Stanford	17	67	243	3
Ore. State	7	69	192	5
L. Beach S.	23	81	289	1
U C L A	41	77	555	2

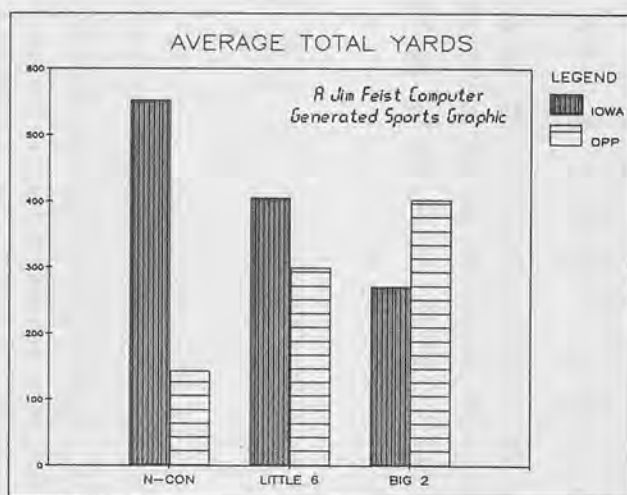
Some Reload, Some Rebuild

Hayden Fry coined the phrase, "Sure, we lost eight defensive starters but we are not rebuilding, just reloading." Good programs do that, always having depth in quantity and quality. Many handicappers fail to realize what happens to the average NCAA team when it has various numbers of starters returning. This graphic represents the facts; if a team has 3-5 back, a decline of 1.8 wins will probably occur while at the high end, if all 22 are back - the team averages only 2.1 more victories than in the previous season.



Quality of Opponents - VIP

Whom you have played is one of the most important elements of college football handicapping, and very often, team statistics will be either inflated or deflated, depending on the quality of the opposition. Again, using Iowa as an example, this graphic shows Iowa's average yards - for and against - at three different stages of the season. Against very weak non-conference foes, Iowa climbed the polls and rated first in defense, second in offense. The next series of games came against the Little-6 of the Big-10, and while the competition was not first-flight, it did narrow the gap. When Iowa had its toughest matches - the Big-2 of Ohio State and Michigan - the per game stats turned the other direction. Before assuming numbers are correct, find out the type of opponent that they were built against.



GAMES OCTOBER 4

	F	TP	TY	TO
Air Force	45	66	488	3
Utah	35	87	612	5
Army	41	74	453	2
Yale	24	76	557	1
Brown	24	64	345	0
Princeton	10	63	336	3
Cornell	22	73	318	5
Lafayette	33	75	357	2
Dartmouth	0	64	280	0
Navy	45	85	623	3
Rutgers	6	61	303	2
Penn St.	32	90	478	2
Columbia	7	56	213	3
Penn	42	81	522	0
Missouri	9	65	274	3
Syracuse	41	70	391	3
Temple	19	63	281	0
Pittsburgh	13	76	372	2
West Va.	7	82	333	4
Va. Tech	13	59	265	0
Harvard	0	60	226	1
Wm & Mary	24	75	394	1
N. Dame	10	79	324	5
Alabama	28	56	318	3
W. Carolina	6	72	227	6
Auburn	55	74	449	2
Louisville	17	75	323	6
Cincinnati	24	73	263	1
Citadel	0	77	225	2
Clemson	24	79	427	6
Ole Miss	10	62	273	2
Georgia	14	74	393	1
S. Miss	0	64	266	4
Kentucky	32	72	431	0
L S U	28	67	310	2
Florida	17	75	367	7

	F	TP	TY	TO
N. Illinois	0	66	153	2
Miami-Fla	34	58	429	1
Miss. St.	34	70	382	1
Memphis St.	17	68	237	5
Nebraska	27	71	438	1
S. Carolina	24	67	377	3
Ga. Tech	20	74	374	1
N. Carolina	21	63	330	2
SW Louis.	21	82	323	3
E. Carolina	10	65	261	2
U T E P	16	67	371	4
Tennessee	26	75	373	1
Duke	18	79	435	2
Vanderbilt	24	53	344	3
Virginia	30	79	374	1
W. Forest	28	85	550	5
Wich. St.	21	64	340	3
Tulane	20	68	349	2
Indiana	24	92	480	2
Northwest'n	7	52	205	2
Wyoming	10	80	270	1
Iowa St.	21	79	409	3
Iowa	24	70	320	2
Mich. St.	21	65	335	5
S. Illin.	23	73	286	5
Kansas	35	78	388	4
Michigan	34	85	532	1
Wisconsin	17	56	330	4
Minnesota	36	79	486	1
Purdue	9	60	234	3
Illinois	0	61	253	5
Ohio St.	14	79	385	3
Kansas St.	10	70	152	4
Oklahoma	56	62	521	4
T C U	17	52	322	3
Arkansas	34	95	514	2
Houston	13	56	103	4
Baylor	27	87	315	4
Boston Col.	29	60	266	3
S M U	31	85	391	2

	F	TP	TY	TO
Texas Tech	8	74	237	4
Texas A&M	45	94	522	2
Texas	17	68	302	1
Rice	14	61	315	1
Ariz. St.	16	67	311	1
U C L A	9	68	167	1
Oregon	21	79	449	4
U S C	35	70	538	6
S. D. State	10	70	234	1
Stanford	17	61	306	1
Ore. State	14	84	435	5
Wash. St.	24	71	431	3
California	18	68	259	9
Washington	50	82	389	4

GAMES OCTOBER 11

	F	TP	TY	TO
Dartmouth	7	47	166	2
Holy Cross	48	78	506	1
Cornell	3	64	216	0
Harvard	0	61	226	2
Princeton	20	76	277	5
Columbia	14	76	191	4
Miami-Fla	58	78	526	2
West Va.	14	61	226	4
Cincinnati	17	73	261	2
Penn St.	23	72	425	3
Penn	34	81	453	2
Brown	0	48	118	6
S. Carolina	27	81	543	3
Va. Tech	27	63	305	4
E. Carolina	28	81	539	5
Temple	45	61	482	2
Colgate	23	72	365	5
Yale	28	72	302	2
Kent St.	9	52	232	1
Florida	52	79	573	0
N. C. State	21	72	410	4
Ga. Tech	59	80	565	0
Georgia	14	77	435	2
L S U	23	71	405	2
Memphis St.	0	53	131	3
Alabama	37	74	470	1
Army	25	68	305	2
Tennessee	21	73	456	2
Auburn	31	51	371	2
Vanderbilt	0	83	318	4
Boston Col.	30	71	466	1
Maryland	25	84	432	3
Clemson	31	74	397	1
Virginia	17	79	384	2
Tulane	21	61	308	1
Fla. State	54	79	419	1
Ark. State	9	67	344	4
Miss. St.	24	73	472	1
Kentucky	13	61	203	4
Ole Miss	33	83	418	3
N. Carolina	40	81	474	3
W. Forest	30	85	446	2
Purdue	27	75	283	2
Illinois	34	84	546	3
Iowa St.	13	82	391	2
Kansas	10	53	182	1
Wisconsin	6	61	323	4
Iowa	17	72	339	1
Pittsburgh	10	80	333	1
N. Dame	9	68	300	2
Colorado	17	64	414	4
Missouri	12	69	266	1
Mich. St.	6	59	193	3
Michigan	27	74	380	3
Northwest'n	23	70	324	5
Minnesota	44	73	483	2
Oklahoma	10	67	229	2
Nebraska	30	70	333	4
Ohio St.	24	63	325	4
Indiana	22	82	348	5

	F	TP	TY	TO
Texas	12	68	247	1
Oklahoma	47	69	467	0
Navy	6	58	154	5
Air Force	40	77	322	0
Rice	37	71	420	2
T C U	31	79	394	3
S M U	27	57	352	2
Baylor	21	84	454	5
Texas A&M	19	74	331	1
Houston	7	56	109	2
Texas Tech	17	73	344	3
Arkansas	7	66	231	2
Ariz. St.	37	70	492	0
Oregon	17	78	397	2
Ore. State	14	71	329	1
California	12	71	377	3
Arizona	25	78	343	4
U C L A	32	74	370	2
U S C	14	56	415	5
Wash. St.	34	80	510	0
Washington	24	75	432	2
Stanford	14	77	433	1

GAMES OCTOBER 18

	F	TP	TY	TO
Louisville	7	71	257	4
Boston Col.	41	78	448	1
Duke	3	76	255	1
Clemson	35	74	356	1
Brown	9	75	315	1
Cornell	27	57	262	3
Florida	15	66	335	2
Rutgers	3	70	254	4
Harvard	42	72	439	1
Dartmouth	26	68	413	3
Holy Cross	17	61	310	1
Army	14	92	421	3
Syracuse	3	67	248	4
Penn St.	42	83	522	1
Penn	30	73	314	2
Navy	26	74	254	4
Columbia	0	77	158	6
Yale	47	58	362	4
Princeton	28	70	319	0
Leigh	48	56	456	1
Alabama	56	75	535	0
Tennessee	28	59	398	3
Ga. Tech	10	83	322	2
Auburn	31	63	405	0
Miss. St.	34	68	476	1
Tulane	27	71	464	1
Ole Miss	21	83	298	5
SW Louis.	20	66	169	2
N. C. State	35	73	503	3
N. Carolina	34	81	490	3
Memphis St.	9	56	218	3
S. Miss	14	72	360	3
Temple	29	78	416	0
Va. Tech	13	71	245	2
L S U	25	71	440	1
Kentucky	16	71	364	0
W. Forest	27	77	361	1
Maryland	21	69	420	5
Iowa St.	3	62	191	3
Colorado	31	74	339	2
Ga. South.	33	63	433	2
E. Carolina	35	83	359	0
Vanderbilt	16	67	322	1
Georgia	38	68	435	0
Ohio St.	39	74	544	1
Purdue	11	72	346	3
Oklahoma	0	58	157	2
Oklahoma	19	74	350	2
Miami-Fla	45	67	454	1
Cincinnati	13	87	341	2
Mich. St.	29	70	413	0
Illinois	21	74	377	2

	F	TP	TY	TO
Iowa	17	64	319	3
Michigan	20	77	418	4
Indiana	17	53	185	2
Minnesota	19	90	431	3
Missouri	17	64	293	3
Nebraska	48	74	524	1
Air Force	3	69	245	3
N. Dame	31	73	356	1
Wisconsin	35	63	365	3
Northw'stn	27	76	358	2
Kansas	12	61	165	4
Kansas St.	29	81	318	4
Houston	3	70	254	2
S M U	10	75	389	4
Arkansas	21	73	253	0
Texas	14	61	244	2
N. Texas St.	24	59	260	2
T C U	20	80	345	6
Baylor	30	74	431	4
Texas A&M	31	77	391	2
Texas Tech	49	75	496	6
Rice	21	71	346	7
Ariz. St.	29	77	395	0
U S C	20	72	452	2
Ore. State	12	83	389	1
Arizona	23	67	426	2
Stanford	41	67	446	2
Oregon	7	76	381	3
U C L A	36	65	421	2
California	10	65	237	3
Bow. Green	0	62	100	6
Washington	48	69	330	2

GAMES OCTOBER 25

	F	TP	TY	TO
Army	7	53	197	1
Rutgers	35	88	527	1
Boston Col.	19	73	294	1
West Va.	10	71	353	4
Holy Cross	22	76	362	4
Brown	7	69	224	4
Colgate	54	90	546	1
Columbia	18	56	142	2
Cornell	10	77	421	3
Dartmouth	7	59	161	2
Harvard	3	74	368	7
Princeton	14	58	253	2
Navy	14	83	338	4
Pittsburgh	56	73	504	2
Syracuse	27	76	401	2
Temple	24	67	326	2
Yale	6	66	230	0
Penn	24	63	384	1
Penn St.	23	68	378	1
Alabama	3	63	216	5
Auburn	35	72	487	0
Miss. St.	6	66	268	4
Clemson	3	65	213	1
N. C. State	27	68	340	2
Maryland	27	61	304	2
Duke	19	82	402	3
E. Carolina	3	68	230	1
S. Carolina	38	61	501	1
Fla. State	54	90	547	2
Louisville	18	63	314	4
Tennessee	13	62	298	1
Ga. Tech	14	65	323	0
Georgia	31	73	424	2
Kentucky	9	72	286	4
N. Carolina	3	68	311	3
L S U	30	67	505	3
Ole Miss	28	66	379	3
Vanderbilt	12	70	373	5
S. Miss	20	74	285	0
Tulane	35	58	392	0
Virginia	10	65	270	2
Va. Tech	42	85	477	2

	F	TP	TY	TO
Cincinnati	24	67	395	2
Wichita St.	19	81	428	2
Nebraska	10	69	246	4
Colorado	20	63	263	3
Illinois	9	71	373	6
Wisconsin	15	65	204	1
Michigan	38	75	588	0
Indiana	14	60	238	3
Oklahoma	38	95	492	2
Iowa St.	0	40	67	1
Northw'stn	20	88	333	4
Iowa	27	77	496	3
Missouri	17	74	388	3
Kansas St.	6	61	237	4
Kansas	6	66	349	1
Okl. St.	24	82	510	1
Purdue	3	57	146	4
Mich. St.	37	83	441	1
Minnesota	0	59	189	2
Ohio St.	33	77	439	1
S. D. State	10	70	286	2
Air Force	22	72	338	4
Arkansas	30	67	348	1
Houston	13	67	258	3
Baylor	28	81	483	4
T C U	17	63	266	3
Rice	10	81	310	4
Texas A&M	45	78	526	2
S M U	24	66	333	3
Texas	27	85	439	1
Utah	7	67	324	3
Ariz. St.	52	77	461	0
California	16	66	213	2
Arizona	33	73	382	3
U S C	10	81	314	2
Stanford	0	52	172	3
Wash St.	16	56	233	1
U C L A	55	87	543	2
Oregon	3	54	124	3
Washington	38	81	429	1
Boise St.	3	69	282	4
Ore. State	34	75	399	2

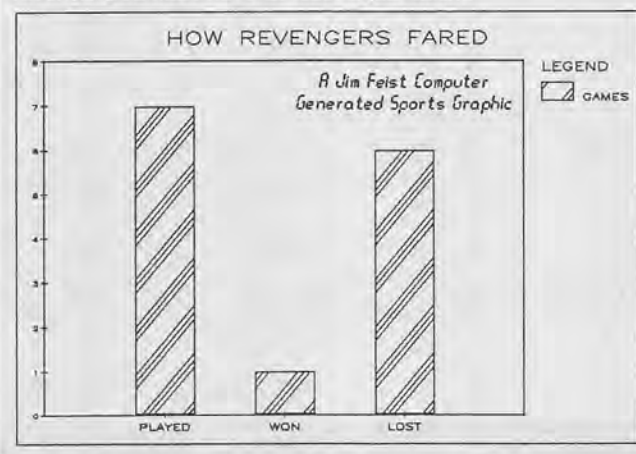
GAMES NOVEMBER 1

	F	TP	TY	TO
Ind. St.	14	77	338	3
Cincinnati	46	75	510	0
Alabama	38	80	531	1
Miss. St.	3	58	203	2
Villanova	42	80	482	4
Columbia	34	66	348	4
Boston Col.	27	68	380	4
Army	20	77	307	5
Bucknell	3	73	304	4
Cornell	16	77	326	2
Dartmouth	39	71	422	0
Yale	13	72	339	5
Brown	31	66	265	1
Harvard	19	76	313	5
Penn St.	19	84	422	1
West Va.	0	51	134	3
Penn	23	73	350	2
Princeton	10	67	235	4
Rutgers	41	88	493	2
Louisville	0	62	164	4
Pittsburgh	20	79	383	4
Syracuse	24	75	194	1
Clemson	28	78	495	3
W. Forest	20	69	334	3
Auburn	17	72	316	3
Florida	18	66	254	7
Duke	6	54	137	6
Ga. Tech	34	86	398	3
S. Miss	23	87	430	0
E. Carolina	21	65	232	0
Fla. State	23	62	242	3
Miami-Fla.	41	81	443	2
Richmond	13	61	308	2
Georgia	28	77	434	2
Kentucky	15	79	392	2
Va. Tech	17	61	256	0
N. Dame	33	84	480	1
Navy	14	62	211	1
S. Carolina	22	74	404	3
N. C. State	23	75	277	2

	F	TP	TY	TO
SW Louis.	39	67	554	2
Tulane	42	76	478	5
Wm & Mary	41	70	443	1
Virginia	37	75	420	0
Ole Miss	21	70	209	2
L S U	19	82	408	1
Maryland	30	59	460	1
N. Carolina	32	95	541	1
Memphis St.	22	79	351	4
Vanderbilt	21	56	233	5
Colorado	31	66	354	1
Okl. St.	14	71	299	2
Rice	14	70	360	5
Arkansas	45	73	491	1
Oklahoma	64	90	635	2
Kansas	3	54	63	6
Kansas St.	0	56	106	2
Nebraska	38	68	385	5
Texas	21	79	354	4
Texas Tech	23	67	268	3
Purdue	17	51	256	1
Northw'stn	16	79	356	1
T C U	30	80	341	1
Houston	14	69	370	6
Illinois	13	69	226	3
Michigan	69	73	501	0
Wisconsin	7	53	160	3
Indiana	21	84	441	3
Iowa St.	37	80	488	4
Missouri	14	68	227	2
Ohio St.	31	70	390	1
Iowa	10	65	226	1
Mich. St.	52	91	506	1
Minnesota	23	48	325	4
Texas A&M	39	77	431	2
S M U	35	83	364	0
Washington	21	74	383	3
Ariz. St.	34	87	194	2
U S C	20	70	395	3
Arizona	13	65	185	5
Oregon	27	77	434	2
California	9	65	232	4
U C L A	49	71	393	0
Ore. State	0	79	380	10
Wash. St.	12	53	296	2
Stanford	42	86	500	0

Revenge Games Can Misfire

Handicappers relish revenge situations, games where one team has a debt to pay against an erstwhile opponent who did them in, dastardly. Last November 1, seven revenge games were played, and the revenge-minded team managed to cover in only one, Michigan over Illinois. Others seeking revenge lost, including Washington to get even with Arizona State, Boston College to massacre Army, Auburn to blast Florida, Florida State to get its share of Miami, Pittsburgh to juice Syracuse, and Kentucky to eradicate Virginia Tech. This last game was a case of coaching revenge. Four of the revenge-minded teams didn't come close, losing straight up. There is a lesson to be learned - before you can apply revenge, you must have at least equal talent.



GAMES NOVEMBER 8

	F	TP	TY	TO
Air Force	11	68	348	1
Army	21	71	376	1
Boston Col.	38	71	501	0
Temple	29	85	460	4
Colgate	27	82	353	1
Brown	3	72	306	4
Yale	0	76	243	6
Cornell	15	60	277	2
Columbia	0	67	271	8
Dartmouth	41	74	540	5
Univ Mass	17	67	258	4
Harvard	7	74	219	4
Maryland	15	74	412	3
Penn St.	17	71	350	1
Lafayette	14	57	157	2
Penn	42	73	466	1
Navy	22	83	342	1
Syracuse	31	71	342	3
Va. Tech	17	66	454	2
Richmond	10	74	344	4
West. Va.	24	74	327	2
Rutgers	17	63	280	3
Princeton	14	78	355	1
Wm & Mary	32	59	430	3
Cincinnati	7	69	317	5
Auburn	52	86	491	1
N. Carolina	10	71	320	3
Clemson	38	68	434	0

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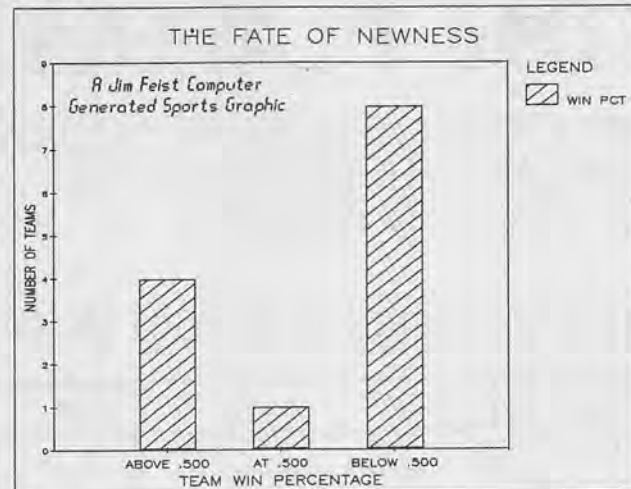
	F	TP	TY	TO
W. Forest Duke	36	68	502	2
	38	79	443	2
Fla. State	45	81	546	3
S. Carolina	28	61	327	6
Georgia	19	64	247	1
Florida	31	69	380	3
Vir. Mil. I.	6	69	312	3
Ga. Tech	52	67	483	0
Vanderbilt	22	59	262	3
Kentucky	34	77	450	3
Louisville	23	70	306	3
Tulane	12	75	408	4
L.S.U.	14	66	247	2
Alabama	10	70	388	4
Miami-Fla.	37	61	327	1
Pittsburgh	10	68	324	7
SW Louis.	0	68	209	1
S. Miss	17	68	408	3
Memphis St.	3	61	143	4
Tennessee	33	67	362	1
N. C. State	16	70	258	6
Virginia	20	82	454	5
Kansas	10	70	270	4
Colorado	17	80	369	1
Iowa	16	67	265	3
Illinois	20	63	267	2
Indiana	17	75	300	1
Mich. St.	14	63	328	5
Michigan	31	74	416	1
Purdue	7	51	184	0
Minnesota	27	64	340	1
Wisconsin	20	70	298	3
Nebraska	35	81	307	1
Iowa St.	14	60	200	1
S.M.U.	29	61	327	4
N. Dame	61	91	615	0
Northw's'n	9	80	497	5
Ohio State	30	76	450	1
Okla. St.	13	61	290	2
Kansas St.	3	81	286	3
Missouri	0	66	198	3
Oklahoma	77	74	750	0
Arkansas	14	55	172	0
Baylor	29	75	412	3
Texas Tech	36	74	422	2
T.C.U.	14	72	302	5
Houston	10	52	246	2
Texas	30	78	538	4
California	0	75	221	6
Ariz. St.	49	69	392	1
Arizona	31	77	409	1
Wash. St.	6	59	373	0
Stanford	28	78	358	0
U.C.L.A.	23	70	364	1
Washington	28	66	402	1
Ore. State	12	67	286	0

GAMES NOVEMBER 15

	F	TP	TY	TO
Temple	14	44	368	2
Alabama	24	62	320	1
Lafayette	49	78	482	2
Army	58	65	458	2
Syracuse	9	74	298	1
Boston Col.	27	68	462	2
Cornell	28	83	471	6
Columbia	0	60	115	5
Dartmouth	21	71	366	3
Brown	21	73	418	0
Delaware	27	81	445	1
Navy	14	71	381	4
Harvard	10	67	184	2
Penn	17	64	340	4
Rutgers	6	64	300	2
Pittsburgh	20	73	388	0
Princeton	13	63	269	0
Yale	14	62	350	4

New Coaches 56-87-2 in 1986

All the cheering when the old coach is axed and a new one ushered in can be best described as "false flag waving." Thirteen major schools had new coaches in 1986, and only four finished above .500. In past history, a coaching change ends up with a 54% chance of more losses than in the previous season. Devastated programs need more than a new face at the helm.



	F	TP	TY	TO
Cincinnati	19	69	358	2
E. Carolina	32	80	432	0
S. Miss	13	71	300	3
Fla. State	49	65	443	2
Georgia	20	64	295	0
Auburn	16	69	371	3
Florida	3	49	254	2
Kentucky	10	79	340	0
LSU	47	79	580	2
Miss. St.	0	56	214	5
Clemson	17	76	357	1
Maryland	17	69	309	0
Tulsa	10	69	216	6
Miami-Fla.	23	77	397	2
Duke	15	70	247	6
N.C. State	29	76	267	2
Virginia	7	71	266	5
N. Carolina	27	78	544	4
Penn St.	24	59	314	0
N. Dame	19	81	418	2
W. Forest	21	62	198	3
S. Carolina	48	81	502	2
Tennessee	22	76	374	1
Ole Miss	10	50	199	1
Memphis St.	6	53	194	2
Tulane	15	89	364	0
Vanderbilt	21	87	272	2
Va. Tech	29	67	323	2
West Va.	42	83	474	1
Louisville	19	70	321	0
Illinois	21	63	359	1
Indiana	16	76	351	0
Kansas St.	19	65	396	2
Iowa State	48	71	507	3
Purdue	14	58	240	3
Iowa	42	74	608	3
Minnesota	20	68	321	1
Michigan	17	62	341	4
Nebraska	70	84	587	0
Kansas	0	50	100	2
Mich. St.	21	85	482	3
Northw's'n	24	68	294	3
Ohio St.	30	70	397	1
Wisconsin	17	62	270	4
Oklahoma	28	60	344	0
Colorado	0	58	135	4
Texas A&M	10	69	303	1
Arkansas	14	64	298	1

	F	TP	TY	TO
Baylor	23	71	424	6
Rice	17	63	218	3
S.M.U.	13	78	327	2
Texas Tech	7	65	318	6
Texas	45	68	382	2
T.C.U.	16	84	312	4
Wichita St.	6	67	269	1
Ariz. State	52	75	503	0
Ore. State	10	77	284	3
B.Y.U.	7	68	301	5
Wash. St.	17	76	431	3
Oregon	27	80	451	3
California	3	64	272	2
U.S.C.	28	70	366	1
U.C.L.A.	17	70	241	3
Washington	17	70	311	6

GAMES, NOV. 22 to NOVEMBER 27

	F	TP	TY	TO
Boston Col.	56	83	534	2
H. Cross	26	78	372	5
Brown	45	79	513	1
Columbia	7	62	274	6
Dartmouth	28	83	419	2
Princeton	6	68	238	4
Yale	17	80	238	3
Harvard	24	62	270	2
N. Carolina	42	65	605	2
Duke	35	72	396	2
Pittsburgh	14	69	258	1
Penn State	34	66	328	1
W. Carolina	18	90	382	3
NC State	31	66	383	3
Penn	31	75	459	5
Cornell	21	60	182	3
Temple	29	65	314	0
Rutgers	22	83	395	4
Ga. Tech	21	74	339	4
W. Forest	24	61	240	1
S. Carolina	21	56	318	2
Clemson	21	87	336	1
Louisville	16	85	405	2
S. Miss	31	50	275	0
Syracuse	34	80	463	2
West Va.	23	67	328	1
Kentucky	9	77	329	2
Tennessee	28	55	313	3

	F	TP	TY	TO
Iowa	30	62	414	3
Minnesota	27	71	342	2
Northw's'n	23	71	290	1
Illinois	18	79	334	4
N. Dame	19	67	270	2
L.S.U.	21	71	387	2
Michigan	26	81	529	3
Ohio State	24	61	358	1
Wisconsin	13	58	242	3
Mich. St.	23	75	434	2
Indiana	15	80	381	3
Purdue	17	67	234	2
Iowa St.	14	64	247	2
Okla. St.	21	71	261	1
Arkansas	41	80	503	0
S.M.U.	0	64	268	5
Colorado	49	68	518	2
Kansas St.	3	68	166	4
Texas	13	68	203	5
Baylor	18	71	354	2
Ole Miss	24	58	312	1
Miss. St.	3	71	257	3
N. Mexico	20	92	293	1
Memphis St.	13	66	225	7
Kansas	0	63	232	8
Missouri	48	85	488	1
Oklahoma	20	76	371	3
Nebraska	17	64	232	3
Air Force	17	83	350	2
Rice	21	57	296	1
T.C.U.	10	57	133	2
Texas A&M	74	103	705	1
Houston	7	74	301	6
Texas Tech	34	78	366	2
Arizona St.	17	87	515	4
Arizona	34	57	351	0
Stanford	11	72	283	0
California	17	53	310	2
Oregon	49	74	479	2
Ore. State	28	66	321	5
U.S.C.	25	63	244	1
U.C.L.A.	45	85	512	1
Washington	44	65	452	1
Wash. St.	23	70	321	2
E. Carolina	10	78	309	4
Miami-Fla.	36	61	394	1
Texas A&M	16	84	442	1
Texas	3	55	247	2

GAMES, NOV. 28 to DECEMBER 6

	F	TP	TY	TO
Ga. Tech	24	68	343	1
Georgia	31	75	436	2
Auburn	21	69	378	4
Alabama	17	74	393	1
Tulane	17	64	321	4
L.S.U.	37	76	495	3
Florida	17	59	201	1
Fla. State	13	70	248	1
N. Dame	38	79	490	2
U.S.C.	37	68	332	1
Maryland	42	73	388	1
Virginia	10	77	339	5
Rice	14	68	225	4
Houston	13	67	322	2
Tennessee	35	71	426	0
Vanderbilt	20	70	377	2
Arizona	24	72	222	2
Stanford	29	72	373	4
Missouri	6	56	201	4
Okla. St.	10	77	362	5
Army	27	77	370	0
Navy	7	68	321	4
B.Y.U.	23	81	555	1
Air Force	3	53	159	4
Michigan	27	64	397	0
Hawaii	10	64	292	1

UNLV

1986 RESULTS		
Wash St.-R	14-34	L/
Port St.-H	51-14	W/
Wisconsin-H	17-7	W/
Cal-Ful.-H	40-23	W/
Pacific-R	15-21	L/
S.Jose St.-H	20-23	L/
Utah St.-R	6-7	L/
N.Tex St.-H	27-26	W/
Fresno-H	7-36	L/
N.Mex St.-R	58-42	W/
L.Beach-R	31-8	W/

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	UNLV	OPP.
First Downs	17	18
Rushing Attempts	38	45
Rushing Yards	128	178
Passes Completed	15	12
Passes Attempted	28	26
Passing Yards	211	151
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	6	6
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	2-1
Penalties	10	8
Penalty Yards	86	64
POINTS	26	22

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.4	4.0
Passing Attempt	7.5	5.9
Rush-Pass Play	5.1	4.6
Pass Completion	14.4	12.3

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	66	71
Game Total Yards	339	329
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	7.7	6.7
MISTAKES	28	26

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	0-0-0

1986 NCAA Football Statistics

Using UNLV, as an example, each major college team has been profiled in this format. First, the LOG section which relates lines ("**" is a half-point), final scores and W-L results. The W, L or T that precedes the "/" is the straightup decision of the game, and the W, L or T that follows the "/" is the spread result. NEVADA STATE LAW PROHIBITS WAGERING ON UNLV GAMES and that explains the absence of spread results. In the logs, "R" refers to a road game, "H" is a home game, and "N" is an out-of-state neutral site. The statistical summary is a PER GAME average while the AVERAGE YARDS PER section reveals the average gain per rush and pass attempt, and per play (combination of rushing and passing). Pass Completion is the average yards gained on each completed pass. MEANINGFUL STATS is designed to show each team's number of plays, yards and turnovers per game. "Points per 100 yards" reveals the number of points scored for each 100 yards gained, and allowed. "Mistakes" is a summation of incomplete passes, turnovers and penalties. UNLV, as a further illustration, committed an average of 28 mistakes per game while the opposition was forced into 26.

AIR FORCE

1986 RESULTS		
Hawaii-H	-11	24-17 W/L
UTEP-R	-16	23-21 W/L
Wyoming-H	-11	17-23 L/L
Colo St.-H	-5	24-7 W/W
Utah-R	-7	45-35 W/W
Navy-H	-5	40-6 W/W
N. Dame-R	+9*	3-31 L/L
SD State-R	-3*	22-10 W/W
Army-R	-9	11-21 L/L
Rice-R	-12	17-21 L/L
BYU-H	-2	3-23 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	A.F.	OPP.
First Downs	17	18
Rushing Attempts	60	41
Rushing Yards	235	132
Passes Completed	5	17
Passes Attempted	11	30
Passing Yards	75	220
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	6	6
Fumbles-Lost	4-2	2-1
Penalties	6	7
Penalty Yards	47	58
POINTS	21	20

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.9	3.3
Passing Attempt	6.8	7.3
Rush-Pass Play	4.4	5.0
Pass Completion	16.2	13.2

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	71	71
Game Total Yards	310	352
Game Turnovers	3	2
Points 100 Yards	6.8	5.7
MISTAKES	17	24

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	4-7-0

ALABAMA

1986 RESULTS		
Ohio St.-N	-4	16-10 W/W
Vand'bilt-H	-23	42-10 W/W
S. Miss-H	-17	31-17 W/L
Florida-R	Pk	21-7 W/W
N. Dame-H	-7	28-10 W/W
Memphis-H	-37	37-0 W/T
Tennessee-R	-13	56-28 W/W
Penn St.-H	-6	3-23 L/L
Miss St.-R	-12*	38-3 W/W
LSU-H	-10	10-14 L/L
Temple-H	-21	24-14 W/L
Auburn-H	-3	17-21 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Ala.	OPP.
First Downs	20	18
Rushing Attempts	49	39
Rushing Yards	265	134
Passes Completed	11	16
Passes Attempted	20	27
Passing Yards	130	167
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	4	6
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	6	6
Penalty Yards	56	47
POINTS	27	13

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	5.4	3.5
Passing Attempt	6.6	6.2
Rush-Pass Play	5.7	4.6
Pass Completion	12.1	10.5

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	69	66
Game Total Yards	395	301
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.8	4.3
MISTAKES	19	22

Straight Up Record	9-3-0
versus the Spread	6-5-1

ARIZONA

1986 RESULTS		
Houston-H	-16	37-3 W/W
Colo St.-H	-18	37-10 W/W
Oregon-R	-8	41-17 W/W
Colorado-R	-10	24-21 W/L
UCLA-R	+1	25-32 L/L
Ore St.-H	-25	23-12 W/L
Calif.-H	-22	33-16 W/L
USC-H	-4*	13-20 L/L
Wash St.-R	-10	31-6 W/W
Ariz. St.-H	+3*	34-17 W/W
Stanford-N	-3*	24-29 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Ariz	OPP.
First Downs	21	17
Rushing Attempts	51	36
Rushing Yards	222	88
Passes Completed	11	20
Passes Attempted	23	34
Passing Yards	155	232
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	4	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	7	5
Penalty Yards	54	44
POINTS	29	17

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.4	2.5
Passing Attempt	6.9	6.9
Rush-Pass Play	5.1	4.6
Pass Completion	13.6	11.6

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	74	70
Game Total Yards	377	320
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	7.7	5.3
MISTAKES	22	25

Straight Up Record	8-3-0
versus the Spread	5-6-0

ARIZONA STATE

1986 RESULTS		
Mich St.-H	-4	20-17 W/L
SMU-H	-3	30-0 W/W
Wash St.-H	-20	21-21 T/L
UCLA-R	+7	16-9 W/W
Oregon-R	-10*	37-17 W/W
USC-R	Pk	29-20 W/W
Utah-H	-26	52-7 W/W
Wash'n'tn-H	Pk	34-21 W/W
Calif.-H	-28	49-0 W/W
Wich St.-H	52-6	W/
Arizona-R	-3*	17-34 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	AST.	OPP.
First Downs	21	18
Rushing Attempts	50	38
Rushing Yards	211	119
Passes Completed	14	18
Passes Attempted	23	32
Passing Yards	196	184
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	4	6
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	2-1
Penalties	5	6
Penalty Yards	31	48
POINTS	32	14

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.2	3.1
Passing Attempt	8.3	5.8
Rush-Pass Play	5.6	4.3
Pass Completion	13.9	10.5

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	73	70
Game Total Yards	407	303
Game Turnovers	1	2
Points 100 Yards	7.9	4.6
MISTAKES	17	24

Straight Up Record	9-1-1
versus the Spread	7-3-0

ARKANSAS

1986 RESULTS		
Ole Miss-H	-9*	21-0 W/W
Tulsa-H	-15	34-17 W/W
N. Mex St.-H	-30	42-11 W/W
TCU-H	-16	34-17 W/W
Tex Tech-H	-22	7-17 L/L
Texas-R	-7	21-14 W/T
Houston-R	-10	30-13 W/W
Rice-H	-26	45-14 W/W
Baylor-R	+4	14-29 L/L
Tex A&M-H	+5	14-10 W/W
SMU-R	-3*	41-0 W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Ark.	OPP.
First Downs	20	16
Rushing Attempts	61	37
Rushing Yards	252	139
Passes Completed	7	15
Passes Attempted	12	29
Passing Yards	111	163
Passes Intercepted	0	2
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	2-1
Penalties	5	6
Penalty Yards	37	47
POINTS	28	13

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.2	3.8
Passing Attempt	9.4	5.6
Rush-Pass Play	5.0	4.6
Pass Completion	15.7	10.5

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	73	66
Game Total Yards	363	302
Game Turnovers	1	3
Points 100 Yards	7.7	4.3
MISTAKES	12	25

Straight Up Record	9-2-0
versus the Spread	8-2-1

ARMY

1986 RESULTS		
Syracuse-H	+7	33-28 W/W
Northw'tn-R	-12	18-25 L/L
W. Forest-H	-4*	14-49 L/L
Yale-R	-20	41-24 W/L
Tennessee-R	+16	25-21 W/W
H. Cross-H	-9	14-17 L/L
Rutgers-R	+7	7-35 L/L
Bos Col-H	+15	20-27 L/W
A. Force-H	+9	21-11 W/W
Lafayette-H	56-48	W/
Navy-N	+1	27-7 W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Army	OPP.
First Downs	20	22
Rushing Attempts	63	48
Rushing Yards	275	217
Passes Completed	5	15
Passes Attempted	10	24
Passing Yards	75	206
Passes Intercepted	0	0
Punts	4	4
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	3-1
Penalties	5	6
Penalty Yards	41	49
POINTS	25	27

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.4	4.5
Passing Attempt	7.3	8.6
Rush-Pass Play	4.8	5.9
Pass Completion	15.0	14.0

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	73	72
Game Total Yards	350	423
Game Turnovers	2	1
Points 100 Yards	7.1	6.4
MISTAKES	13	18

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	5-5-0

AUBURN

1986 RESULTS

Chatt.-H	42-14	W/
E. Caro.-H	-25	45-0 W/W
Tennessee-H	-8*	34-8 W/W
W. Caro.-H	55-6	W/
Vand'bilt-R	-22	31-9 W/T
Ga. Tech-H	-16	31-10 W/W
Miss St.-R	-10	35-6 W/W
Florida-R	-8*	17-18 L/L
Cinc.-H	-28	52-7 W/W
Georgia-H	-10*	16-20 L/L
Alabama-R	+3	21-17 W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Aub.	OPP.
First Downs	21	16
Rushing Attempts	47	37
Rushing Yards	244	121
Passes Completed	13	16
Passes Attempted	23	33
Passing Yards	172	165
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	4	6
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	6	5
Penalty Yards	54	39
POINTS	34	10

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	5.2	3.2
Passing Attempt	7.6	5.0
Rush-Pass Play	5.9	4.1
Pass Completion	13.5	10.3

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	70	70
Game Total Yards	416	286
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	8.2	3.5
MISTAKES	19	27

Straight Up Record	9-2-0
versus the Spread	6-2-1

BAYLOR

1986 RESULTS

Wyoming-R	-21	31-28 W/L
La. Tech-H	38-7	W/
USC-H	-5	14-17 L/L
Tex Tech-R	-9	45-14 W/W
Houston-H	-21	27-13 W/L
SMU-H	-8*	21-27 L/L
Tex A&M-R	+5	30-31 L/W
TCU-R	-14	28-17 W/L
Arkansas-H	-4	29-14 W/W
Rice-R	-24	23-17 W/L
Texas-H	-8	18-13 W/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Bay.	OPP.
First Downs	22	16
Rushing Attempts	51	36
Rushing Yards	205	89
Passes Completed	16	13
Passes Attempted	30	28
Passing Yards	234	159
Passes Intercepted	2	2
Punts	4	7
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	2-1
Penalties	8	6
Penalty Yards	67	52
POINTS	28	18

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.0	2.4
Passing Attempt	7.8	5.6
Rush-Pass Play	5.4	3.9
Pass Completion	14.6	12.5

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	81	64
Game Total Yards	439	248
Game Turnovers	4	3
Points 100 Yards	6.4	7.3
MISTAKES	28	27

Straight Up Record	8-3-0
versus the Spread	3-7-0

BOSTON COLLEGE

1986 RESULTS

Rutgers-H	-12*	9-11 L/L
Calif.-H	-3	21-15 W/W
Penn St-H	+13	14-26 L/W
SMU-R	+6*	29-31 L/W
Maryland-R	+9	30-25 W/W
Louis'vI-H	-15	41-7 W/W
West Va.-R	-6*	19-10 W/W
Army-R	-15	27-20 W/L
Temple-R	-1	38-29 W/W
Syracuse-H	-7	27-9 W/W
H. Cross-R	-13	56-26 W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	B.C.	OPP.
First Downs	21	21
Rushing Attempts	45	46
Rushing Yards	192	152
Passes Completed	16	14
Passes Attempted	27	30
Passing Yards	202	179
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	7	6
Penalty Yards	65	56
POINTS	28	19

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.3	3.3
Passing Attempt	7.6	6.1
Rush-Pass Play	5.5	4.4
Pass Completion	12.7	12.9

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	72	76
Game Total Yards	394	331
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	7.1	5.7
MISTAKES	21	28

Straight Up Record	8-3-0
versus the Spread	9-2-0

BRIGHAM YOUNG

1986 RESULTS

Utah St.-H	52-0	W/
N Mexico-H	-22	31-30 W/L
Washing'tn-R	+8	21-52 L/L
Temple-H	-10	27-17 W/T
Colo St.-H	-16*	20-24 L/L
Wyoming-R	-6	34-22 W/W
UTEP-H	-24	37-13 W/T
Hawaii-R	-7	10-3 W/T
Ore St.-H	-17	7-10 L/L
Utah-R	-12	35-21 W/W
SD State-R	-3	3-10 L/L
A. Force-R	+2	23-3 W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	BYU	OPP.
First Downs	21	15
Rushing Attempts	43	37
Rushing Yards	179	99
Passes Completed	18	15
Passes Attempted	30	29
Passing Yards	236	189
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	5	7
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	7	7
Penalty Yards	66	57
POINTS	25	17

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.2	2.7
Passing Attempt	7.9	6.5
Rush-Pass Play	5.7	4.4
Pass Completion	13.3	12.7

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	73	66
Game Total Yards	415	288
Game Turnovers	3	2
Points 100 Yards	6.0	5.9
MISTAKES	25	25

Straight Up Record	8-4-0
versus the Spread	3-5-3

BROWN

1986 RESULTS

Yale-H	-2	21-7 W/W
Rh Isl-R	27-7	W/
Princeton-R	-13	24-10 W/W
Penn-H	-3	0-34 L/L
Cornell-R	+3*	9-27 L/L
H. Cross-H	+15	7-22 L/T
Harvard-R	Pk	31-19 W/W
Colgate-H	+6*	3-27 L/L
Dartm'th-H	-7	21-21 T/L
Columbia-R	-26	45-7 W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Brow.	OPP.
First Downs	16	18
Rushing Attempts	42	40
Rushing Yards	135	134
Passes Completed	13	16
Passes Attempted	26	29
Passing Yards	188	187
Passes Intercepted	2	2
Punts	7	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-2
Penalties	8	7
Penalty Yards	68	54
POINTS	19	18

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.2	3.3
Passing Attempt	7.2	6.4
Rush-Pass Play	4.8	4.7
Pass Completion	14.7	11.7

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	68	69
Game Total Yards	323	321
Game Turnovers	3	4
Points 100 Yards	5.9	5.6
MISTAKES	26	27

Straight Up Record	5-4-1
versus the Spread	4-4-1

CALIFORNIA

1986 RESULTS

Bos Col.-R	+3	15-21 L/L
Wash St.-H	-5*	31-21 W/W
S Jose St-H	-10	14-35 L/L
Washing'tn-R	+21	18-50 L/L
Ore St.-H	-9	12-14 L/L
UCLA-H	+15	10-36 L/L
Arizona-R	+22	16-33 L/W
Oregon-H	-3	9-27 L/L
Ariz St.-R	+28	0-49 L/L
USC-R	+26	3-28 L/W
Stanford-H	+18*	17-11 W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Cal.	OPP.
First Downs	16	21
Rushing Attempts	35	48
Rushing Yards	93	186
Passes Completed	16	17
Passes Attempted	30	29
Passing Yards	175	199
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	5	4
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	2-1
Penalties	6	7
Penalty Yards	53	60
POINTS	13	30

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	2.7	3.9
Passing Attempt	5.9	6.8
Rush-Pass Play	4.1	5.0
Pass Completion	11.1	11.8

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	65	77
Game Total Yards	268	385
Game Turnovers	4	2
Points 100 Yards	4.9	7.8
MISTAKES	26	23

Straight Up Record	2-9-0
versus the Spread	4-7-0

CINCINNATI

1986 RESULTS

Va. Tech-R	+8	24-20 W/W
Miamt,O-H	45-38	W/
Rutgers-R	+5	28-48 L/L
Kentucky-H	+5	20-37 L/L
Louis'vI-H	-9	24-17 W/L
Penn St.-R	+24	17-23 L/W
Miami,F.-H	+27	13-45 L/L
Wich St.-R	24-19	W/
Ind. St.-H	46-14	W/
Auburn-R	+28	7-52 L/L
E. Caro.-R	-6	19-32 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Cinc	OPP.
First Downs	23	24
Rushing Attempts	41	43
Rushing Yards	149	192
Passes Completed	22	18
Passes Attempted	34	31
Passing Yards	257	226
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	4
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	7	6
Penalty Yards	61	60
POINTS	24	31

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.6	4.5
Passing Attempt	7.6	7.4
Rush-Pass Play	5.4	5.7
Pass Completion	12.0	12.9

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	75	74
Game Total Yards	406	418
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	5.9	7.4
MISTAKES	23	23

Straight Up Record	5-6-0
versus the Spread	2-6-0

CLEMSON

1986 RESULTS

Va. Tech-H	-12	14-20 L/L
Georgia-R	+8	31-28 W/W
Ga Tech-R	-2	27-3 W/W
Citadel-H	24-0	W/
Virginia-R	-9	31-17 W/W
Duke-H	-19	35-3 W/W
NC State-R	-9	3-27 L/L
W. Forest-R	-7*	28-20 W/W
N. Caro.-H	-7	38-10 W/W
Maryland-R	-4	17-17 T/L
S. Caro.-H	-7	21-21 T/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Clem	OPP.
First Downs	20	17
Rushing Attempts	59	33
Rushing Yards	275	104
Passes Completed	8	17
Passes Attempted	18	35
Passing Yards	108	206
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	6
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	2-1
Penalties	8	6
Penalty Yards	70	52
POINTS	24	15

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.7	3.2
Passing Attempt	6.2	5.9
Rush-Pass Play	5.0	4.6
Pass Completion	12.9	12.3

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	77	68
Game Total Yards	383	310
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.3	4.8
MISTAKES	22	28

Straight Up Record	7-2-2
versus the Spread	6-4-0

COLGATE

1986 RESULTS

Wm&Mary-R	21-41	L/
Lehigh-R	39-41	L/
Cornell-H	-5*	12-21 L/L
H Cross-H	+5	12-16 L/W
Yale-R	-4	23-28 L/L
Bucknell-R		39-40 L/
Columbia-R	-27	54-8 W/W
Lafayette-H		42-7 W/
Brown-R	-6*	27-3 W/W
Bos Univ-R		17-45 L/
N. Hamp.-R		27-23 W/

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Colg	OPP.
First Downs	24	17
Rushing Attempts	48	36
Rushing Yards	231	101
Passes Completed	15	17
Passes Attempted	27	33
Passing Yards	187	236
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	4	6
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	6	6
Penalty Yards	50	50
POINTS	28	25

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.8	2.8
Passing Attempt	6.9	7.1
Rush-Pass Play	5.6	4.9
Pass Completion	12.9	13.5

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	75	69
Game Total Yards	418	337
Game Turnovers	3	2
Points 100 Yards	6.7	7.4
MISTAKES	24	26

Straight Up Record	4-7-0
versus the Spread	3-2-0

COLORADO

1986 RESULTS

Colo St.-H	-15	7-23 L/L
Oregon-R	+1	30-32 L/L
Ohio St.-R	+16	10-13 L/W
Arizona-H	+10	21-24 L/W
Missouri-R	-7*	17-12 W/L
Iowa St.-H	-9	31-3 W/W
Nebraska-H	+16*	20-10 W/W
Oklahoma-H	-2	31-14 W/W
Kansas-H	-25	17-10 W/L
Oklahoma-H	+24	0-28 L/L
Kans St.-R	-22	49-3 W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Colo	OPP.
First Downs	16	16
Rushing Attempts	56	42
Rushing Yards	262	141
Passes Completed	4	14
Passes Attempted	8	28
Passing Yards	70	151
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	6	6
Fumbles-Lost	4-2	2-1
Penalties	5	5
Penalty Yards	48	43
POINTS	21	16

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.7	3.4
Passing Attempt	8.9	5.5
Rush-Pass Play	5.2	4.2
Pass Completion	18.9	10.6

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	64	70
Game Total Yards	332	292
Game Turnovers	3	2
Points 100 Yards	6.3	5.5
MISTAKES	14	22

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	6-5-0

COLORADO STATE

1986 RESULTS

Colorado-R	+15	23-7 W/W
Arizona-R	+18	10-37 L/L
N. Colo.-H		46-14 W/
A. Force-R	+5	7-24 L/L
BYU-R	+16*	24-20 W/W
Hawaii-H	-3	31-7 W/W
Wyoming-H	-4	20-15 W/W
SD State-H	-7*	26-27 L/L
Utah-R	-12	28-38 L/L
N Mexico-H	-10	32-27 W/L
UTEP-R	-9	19-21 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Cst.	OPP.
First Downs	19	18
Rushing Attempts	42	40
Rushing Yards	127	129
Passes Completed	19	20
Passes Attempted	35	34
Passing Yards	241	227
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	2-1
Penalties	6	7
Penalty Yards	50	59
POINTS	24	22

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.0	3.2
Passing Attempt	7.0	6.6
Rush-Pass Play	4.8	4.8
Pass Completion	12.8	11.6

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	77	74
Game Total Yards	368	356
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	6.5	6.2
MISTAKES	25	27

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	4-6-0

COLUMBIA

1986 RESULTS

Harvard-R	+22	0-34 L/L
Lafayette-H		21-26 L/
Penn-R	+29	7-42 L/L
Princeton-H	+13*	14-20 L/W
Yale-R	+24	0-47 L/L
Colgate-H	+27	8-54 L/L
Villanova-H		34-42 L/
Dartm'th-R	+21	0-41 L/L
Cornell-H	+31	0-28 L/W
Brown-H	+26	7-45 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Col.	OPP.
First Downs	14	24
Rushing Attempts	34	57
Rushing Yards	83	272
Passes Completed	15	12
Passes Attempted	33	20
Passing Yards	155	179
Passes Intercepted	3	1
Punts	7	4
Fumbles-Lost	4-2	3-2
Penalties	6	8
Penalty Yards	46	75
POINTS	9	38

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	2.5	4.8
Passing Attempt	4.7	9.0
Rush-Pass Play	3.6	5.9
Pass Completion	10.1	15.1

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	67	77
Game Total Yards	238	451
Game Turnovers	5	3
Points 100 Yards	3.8	8.4
MISTAKES	32	21

Straight Up Record	0-10-0
versus the Spread	2-6-0

CORNELL

1986 RESULTS

Princeton-H	-7	39-8 W/W
Colgate-R	+5*	21-12 W/W
Lafayette-R		22-33 L/
Harvard-R	-6	3-0 W/L
Brown-H	-3*	27-9 W/W
Dartm'th-R	-14	10-7 W/L
Bucknell-H		16-3 W/
Yale-H	-9	15-0 W/W
Columbia-R	-31	28-0 W/L
Penn-H	+5*	21-31 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Cor.	OPP.
First Downs	16	17
Rushing Attempts	40	36
Rushing Yards	151	112
Passes Completed	13	15
Passes Attempted	27	32
Passing Yards	168	181
Passes Intercepted	2	2
Punts	7	7
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	7	7
Penalty Yards	57	48
POINTS	20	10

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.8	3.1
Passing Attempt	6.3	5.7
Rush-Pass Play	4.8	4.3
Pass Completion	12.7	12.2

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	67	68
Game Total Yards	319	293
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	6.3	3.4
MISTAKES	25	30

Straight Up Record	8-2-0
versus the Spread	4-4-0

DARTMOUTH

1986 RESULTS

Penn-H	+7	7-21 L/L
N Hamp.-H		12-66 L/
Navy-R	+33	0-45 L/L
H Cross-R	+26	7-48 L/L
Harvard-H	+6	26-42 L/L
Cornell-H	+14	7-10 L/W
Yale-R	+16	39-13 W/W
Columbia-H	-21	41-0 W/W
Brown-R	+7	21-21 T/W
Princeton-R	-1	28-6 W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Dart	OPP.
First Downs	17	22
Rushing Attempts	37	45
Rushing Yards	110	243
Passes Completed	15	15
Passes Attempted	27	28
Passing Yards	237	173
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	6	4
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	4	7
Penalty Yards	36	59
POINTS	19	27

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.0	5.4
Passing Attempt	8.7	6.2
Rush-Pass Play	5.4	5.7
Pass Completion	16.2	11.9

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	64	73
Game Total Yards	347	416
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	5.5	6.5
MISTAKES	21	26

Straight Up Record	3-6-1
versus the Spread	5-4-0

DUKE

1986 RESULTS

Northw'tn-R	-6	17-6 W/W
Georgia-R	+21	7-31 L/L
Ohio U-H		22-7 W/
Virginia-H	+5*	20-13 W/W
Vand'bilt-R	+2	18-24 L/L
Clemson-R	+19	3-35 L/L
Maryland-H	+10*	19-27 L/W
Ga. Tech-R	+12*	6-34 L/L
W. Forest-H	+5*	38-36 W/W
NC State-R	+10	15-29 L/L
N. Caro.-H	+8*	35-42 L/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Duke	OPP.
First Downs	19	20
Rushing Attempts	40	44
Rushing Yards	142	178
Passes Completed	17	15
Passes Attempted	30	26
Passing Yards	171	202
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	4
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	3-2
Penalties	6	7
Penalty Yards	54	60
POINTS	18	26

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.5	4.0
Passing Attempt	5.8	7.7
Rush-Pass Play	4.5	5.4
Pass Completion	9.9	13.1

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	70	70
Game Total Yards	313	380
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	5.8	6.8
MISTAKES	23	22

Straight Up Record	4-7-0
versus the Spread	5-5-0

EAST CAROLINA

1986 RESULTS

NC State-R	+5*	10-38 L/L
West Va.-H	+12*	21-24 L/W
Auburn-R	+25	0-45 L/L
Penn St.-R	+29	17-42 L/W
SW La.-H		10-21 L/
Temple-R	+18	28-45 L/W
Ga. Sou.-H		35-33 W/
S. Caro.-R	+19	3-38 L/L
S. Miss-H	+7*	21-23 L/W
Cinc.-H	+6	32-19 W/W
Miami,F-R	+38	10-36 L/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	E.C.	OPP.
First Downs	18	22
Rushing Attempts	49	43
Rushing Yards	190	191
Passes Completed	11	14
Passes Attempted	23	25
Passing Yards	132	209
Passes Intercepted	1	0
Punts	6	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	2-1
Penalties	7	5
Penalty Yards	49	37
POINTS	17	33

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.9	4.4
Passing Attempt	5.6	8.5
Rush-Pass Play	4.5	5.9
Pass Completion	11.7	14.5

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	72	68
Game Total Yards	322	400
Game Turnovers	2	1
Points 100 Yards	5.3	8.3
MISTAKES	24	17

Straight Up Record	2-9-0
versus the Spread	6-3-0

FLORIDA

1986 RESULTS

Ga. South-H	38-14	W/
Miami, F-H	+7 15-23	L/L
Alabama-H	Pk 7-21	L/L
Miss St.-R	-5+ 10-16	L/L
LSU-H	-1+ 17-28	L/L
Kent St.-H	52-9	W/
Rutgers-R	-7 15-3	W/W
Auburn-H	+8+ 18-17	W/W
Georgia-H	+1 31-19	W/W
Kentucky-R	-8 3-10	L/L
Fla St.-R	+7+ 17-13	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Fla.	OPP.
First Downs	18	16
Rushing Attempts	40	47
Rushing Yards	133	183
Passes Completed	15	11
Passes Attempted	27	21
Passing Yards	183	117
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	6
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	3-1
Penalties	6	7
Penalty Yards	48	65
POINTS	20	16

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	3.4	3.9
Passing Attempt	6.8	5.7
Rush-Pass Play	4.7	4.4
Pass Completion	12.4	10.8

MEANINGFUL STATS		
Game Total Plays	67	68
Game Total Yards	316	300
Game Turnovers	3	2
Points 100 Yards	6.3	5.3
MISTAKES	22	22

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	4-5-0

FLORIDA STATE

1986 RESULTS

Toledo-H	24-0	W/
Nebraska-R	+7 17-34	L/L
N. Caro.-H	-9 10-10	T/L
Michigan-R	+9 18-20	L/W
Tulane-H	-26 54-21	W/W
Wich St.-H	59-3	W/
Louis'v1-R	-25 54-18	W/W
Miami, F.-R	+13+ 23-41	L/L
S. Caro.-R	-6+ 45-28	W/W
S. Miss-H	-25 49-13	W/W
Florida-H	-7+ 13-17	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Fst.	OPP.
First Downs	20	17
Rushing Attempts	42	42
Rushing Yards	203	149
Passes Completed	15	13
Passes Attempted	27	26
Passing Yards	195	168
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	4	6
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	3-1
Penalties	7	6
Penalty Yards	63	52
POINTS	33	19

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	4.8	3.5
Passing Attempt	7.1	6.4
Rush-Pass Play	5.8	4.7
Pass Completion	13.1	13.1

MEANINGFUL STATS		
Game Total Plays	69	68
Game Total Yards	398	317
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	8.3	6.0
MISTAKES	24	24

Straight Up Record	6-4-1
versus the Spread	5-4-0

FRESNO STATE

1986 RESULTS

Mon. St-H	55-2	W/
Ore St.-H	-14 27-0	W/W
La Tech-H	21-26	L/
S Jose St-R	41-45	L/
N Mex St-H	17-14	W/
Pacific-H	10-9	W/
L. Beach-H	25-12	W/
Cal-Ful.-R	30-20	W/
UNLV-R	36-7	W/
Hawaii-R	13-24	L/
Utah St.-H	14-7	W/

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Fres	OPP.
First Downs	20	18
Rushing Attempts	45	41
Rushing Yards	156	103
Passes Completed	15	16
Passes Attempted	27	33
Passing Yards	220	198
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	5	7
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	2-1
Penalties	10	10
Penalty Yards	89	94
POINTS	27	14

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	3.5	2.5
Passing Attempt	8.2	6.0
Rush-Pass Play	5.2	4.1
Pass Completion	14.9	12.6

MEANINGFUL STATS		
Game Total Plays	72	74
Game Total Yards	376	301
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	7.2	4.7
MISTAKES	25	33

Straight Up Record	8-3-0
versus the Spread	1-0-0

FULLERTON STATE

1986 RESULTS

Nev-Reno-R	3-49	L/
N Mex St.-R	21-24	L/
Idaho St-H	35-25	W/
Idaho-R	17-25	L/
UNLV-R	23-40	L/
Tulsa-R	+18 10-20	L/W
L Beach-R	20-30	L/
Utah St.-H	33-0	W/
Hawaii-R	+13 15-26	L/W
Fresno St-H	20-30	L/
S Jose St-H	24-48	L/
Pacific-H	39-38	W/

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Ful.	OPP.
First Downs	18	22
Rushing Attempts	43	46
Rushing Yards	169	208
Passes Completed	13	15
Passes Attempted	26	26
Passing Yards	167	214
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	6	4
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	8	8
Penalty Yards	57	67
POINTS	22	30

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	4.0	4.5
Passing Attempt	6.4	8.4
Rush-Pass Play	4.9	5.9
Pass Completion	12.4	14.2

MEANINGFUL STATS		
Game Total Plays	69	72
Game Total Yards	336	422
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.6	7.1
MISTAKES	25	23

Straight Up Record	3-9-0
versus the Spread	2-0-0

GEORGIA

1986 RESULTS

Duke-H	-21 31-7	W/W
Clemson-H	-8 28-31	L/L
S. Caro.-R	-10 31-26	W/L
Ole Miss-H	-14 14-10	W/L
LSU-R	+4 14-23	L/L
Vand'bilt-H	-20 38-16	W/W
Kentucky-R	-6 31-9	W/W
Richmond-H	28-13	W/
Florida-R	-1 19-31	L/L
Auburn-R	+10+ 20-16	W/W
Ga Tech-H	-9+ 31-24	W/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	UGA.	OPP.
First Downs	22	19
Rushing Attempts	54	38
Rushing Yards	256	142
Passes Completed	10	15
Passes Attempted	18	30
Passing Yards	144	198
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	4	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	2-1
Penalties	5	4
Penalty Yards	40	35
POINTS	26	19

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	4.7	3.8
Passing Attempt	7.9	6.7
Rush-Pass Play	5.6	5.0
Pass Completion	14.3	12.9

MEANINGFUL STATS		
Game Total Plays	72	68
Game Total Yards	400	340
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	6.5	5.6
MISTAKES	16	24

Straight Up Record	8-3-0
versus the Spread	4-6-0

GEORGIA TECH

1986 RESULTS

Furman-H	17-17	T/
Virginia-R	+3 28-14	W/W
Clemson-H	+2 3-27	L/L
N. Caro.-R	+10 20-21	L/W
NC State-H	-4 59-21	W/W
Auburn-R	+16 10-31	L/L
Tennessee-H	-6 14-13	W/L
Duke-H	-12+ 34-6	W/W
VMI-H	52-6	W/
W.Forest-R	-10 21-24	L/L
Georgia-R	+9+ 24-31	L/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	G.T.	OPP.
First Downs	20	19
Rushing Attempts	48	45
Rushing Yards	210	190
Passes Completed	12	12
Passes Attempted	23	23
Passing Yards	148	137
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	4	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-2
Penalties	5	5
Penalty Yards	46	38
POINTS	26	19

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	4.4	4.2
Passing Attempt	6.3	5.9
Rush-Pass Play	5.0	4.8
Pass Completion	11.9	11.7

MEANINGFUL STATS		
Game Total Plays	71	68
Game Total Yards	358	327
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	7.3	5.8
MISTAKES	19	20

Straight Up Record	5-5-1
versus the Spread	5-4-0

HARVARD

1986 RESULTS

Columbia-H	-22 34-0	W/W
H. Cross-H	+6 0-41	L/L
Wm Mary-R	0-24	L/
Cornell-H	+6 0-3	L/W
Dartm'th-R	-6 42-26	W/W
Princeton-R	-6 3-14	L/L
Brown-H	Pk 19-31	L/L
Mass.-H	7-17	L/
Penn-R	+20 10-17	L/W
Yale-H	-4 24-17	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Har.	OPP.
First Downs	16	15
Rushing Attempts	48	47
Rushing Yards	161	157
Passes Completed	10	10
Passes Attempted	22	22
Passing Yards	127	145
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	7	7
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	3-1
Penalties	6	6
Penalty Yards	45	53
POINTS	14	19

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	3.4	3.3
Passing Attempt	5.8	6.5
Rush-Pass Play	4.1	4.4
Pass Completion	12.6	14.8

MEANINGFUL STATS		
Game Total Plays	70	69
Game Total Yards	288	302
Game Turnovers	4	2
Points 100 Yards	4.9	6.3
MISTAKES	24	23

Straight Up Record	3-7-0
versus the Spread	5-3-0

HAWAII

1986 RESULTS

A. Force-R	+11 17-24	L/W
Wisconsin-H	+5+ 20-17	W/W
UTEP-H	-10 31-21	W/T
N Mexico-H	-8 27-10	W/W
Colo St.-R	+3 7-31	L/L
Cal-Ful.-H	-13 26-15	W/L
Utah-R	-6 33-13	W/W
BYU-H	+7 3-10	L/T
Fresno St-H	24-13	W/
SD State-R	+3 5-35	L/L
Wyoming-H	-2 35-19	W/W
Michigan-H	+14 10-27	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Haw.	OPP.
First Downs	19	17
Rushing Attempts	41	39
Rushing Yards	131	117
Passes Completed	17	14
Passes Attempted	32	27
Passing Yards	230	156
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	6	7
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	3-1
Penalties	7	7
Penalty Yards	60	53
POINTS	20	20

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	3.2	3.0
Passing Attempt	7.3	5.8
Rush-Pass Play	5.0	4.1
Pass Completion	13.4	11.2

MEANINGFUL STATS		
Game Total Plays	73	66
Game Total Yards	361	273
Game Turnovers	3	2
Points 100 Yards	5.5	7.3
MISTAKES	28	24

Straight Up Record	7-5-0
versus the Spread	5-4-2

HOLY CROSS

1986 RESULTS

Lehigh-H	17-14	W/
Lafayette-R	38-14	W/
Harvard-R	-6	41 0 W/W
Colgate-R	-5	16-12 W/L
Dartm'th-H	-26	48-7 W/W
Army-R	+9	17-14 W/W
Brown-R	-15	22-7 W/T
Mass.-H	41-7	W/
Bucknell-H	17-10	W/
WM-Mary-R	31-7	W/
Bos Col.-H	+13	26-56 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	H.C.	OPP.
First Downs	22	14
Rushing Attempts	45	39
Rushing Yards	180	91
Passes Completed	19	13
Passes Attempted	34	28
Passing Yards	257	149
Passes Intercepted	2	3
Punts	4	7
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	2-1
Penalties	8	5
Penalty Yards	74	51
POINTS	29	13

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.0	2.3
Passing Attempt	7.6	5.4
Rush-Pass Play	5.5	3.6
Pass Completion	13.6	11.2

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	79	67
Game Total Yards	437	240
Game Turnovers	3	4
Points 100 Yards	6.6	5.4
MISTAKES	30	27

Straight Up Record	10-1-0
versus the Spread	3-2-1

HOUSTON

1986 RESULTS

Arizona-R	+16	3-37 L/L
Okla St.-R	+12	28-12 W/W
Tulsa-H	-5	14-24 L/L
Baylor-R	+21	13-27 L/W
Tex A&M-H	+18	7-19 L/W
SMU-R	+15	3-10 L/W
Arkansas-H	+10	13-30 L/L
TCU-H	-4	14-30 L/L
Texas-R	+9	10-30 L/L
Tex Tech-R	+11	7-34 L/L
Rice-H	-4	13-14 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Hou.	OPP.
First Downs	14	20
Rushing Attempts	45	52
Rushing Yards	161	207
Passes Completed	8	12
Passes Attempted	18	25
Passing Yards	97	156
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	7	6
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	3-2
Penalties	5	5
Penalty Yards	38	43
POINTS	11	24

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.6	4.0
Passing Attempt	5.3	6.4
Rush-Pass Play	4.1	4.7
Pass Completion	12.7	12.9

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	63	77
Game Total Yards	258	363
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	4.3	6.6
MISTAKES	21	22

Straight Up Record	1-10-0
versus the Spread	4-7-0

ILLINOIS

1986 RESULTS

Louis'v1-H	-22	23-0 W/W
USC-R	+11	16-31 L/L
Nebraska-H	+20	14-59 L/L
Ohio St.-R	+17	0-14 L/W
Purdue-H	-8	34-27 W/L
Mich St.-H	+7	21-29 L/L
Wisconsin-R	+1	9-15 L/L
Michigan-R	+25	13-69 L/L
Iowa-H	+17	20-16 W/W
Indiana-R	+8	21-16 W/W
Northw'tn-H	-10	18-23 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Ill.	OPP.
First Downs	18	18
Rushing Attempts	35	48
Rushing Yards	113	186
Passes Completed	19	12
Passes Attempted	36	24
Passing Yards	219	160
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	6	6
Penalty Yards	52	44
POINTS	17	27

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.2	3.9
Passing Attempt	6.1	6.6
Rush-Pass Play	4.7	4.8
Pass Completion	11.4	13.1

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	71	72
Game Total Yards	332	346
Game Turnovers	3	2
Points 100 Yards	5.1	7.8
MISTAKES	28	21

Straight Up Record	4-7-0
versus the Spread	4-7-0

INDIANA

1986 RESULTS

Louis'v1-H	-14	21-0 W/W
Navy-H	+2	52-29 W/W
Missouri-R	+4	41-24 W/W
Northw'tn-R	-9	24-7 W/W
Ohio St.-H	+7	22-24 L/W
Minnes'ta-R	+1	17-19 L/L
Michigan-H	+15	14-38 L/L
Wisconsin-H	-6	21-7 W/W
Mich St.-R	+14	17-14 W/W
Illinois-H	-8	16-21 L/L
Purdue-R	-11	15-17 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Ind.	OPP.
First Downs	21	19
Rushing Attempts	51	43
Rushing Yards	196	159
Passes Completed	13	13
Passes Attempted	25	24
Passing Yards	177	173
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-2
Penalties	7	5
Penalty Yards	57	44
POINTS	24	18

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.9	3.7
Passing Attempt	7.2	7.1
Rush-Pass Play	4.9	5.0
Pass Completion	13.3	13.3

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	76	67
Game Total Yards	373	332
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	6.4	5.4
MISTAKES	22	20

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	7-4-0

IOWA

1986 RESULTS

Iowa St.-H	-18	43-7 W/W
N. Illin.-H	57-3	W/
UTEP-H	-30	69-7 W/W
Mich St.-R	Pk	24-21 W/W
Wisconsin-H	-22	17-6 W/L
Michigan-R	+7	17-20 L/W
Northw'tn-H	-32	27-20 W/L
Ohio St.-H	-3	10-31 L/L
Illinois-R	-17	16-20 L/L
Purdue-H	-25	42-14 W/W
Minnes'ta-R	-6	30-27 W/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Iowa	OPP.
First Downs	21	15
Rushing Attempts	43	39
Rushing Yards	188	103
Passes Completed	15	13
Passes Attempted	27	27
Passing Yards	227	173
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	4	6
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	7	4
Penalty Yards	61	43
POINTS	32	16

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.4	2.7
Passing Attempt	8.5	6.5
Rush-Pass Play	5.9	4.2
Pass Completion	14.7	12.9

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	70	66
Game Total Yards	415	276
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	7.7	5.8
MISTAKES	22	23

Straight Up Record	8-3-0
versus the Spread	5-5-0

IOWA STATE

1986 RESULTS

Iowa-R	+18	7-43 L/L
Ind. St.-H	64-9	W/
Mich. St.-H	36-14	W/
Wyoming-H	+1	21-10 W/W
Kansas-R	Pk	13-10 W/W
Colorado-R	+9	3-31 L/L
Oklahoma-H	+33	0-38 L/L
Missouri-R	+2	37-14 W/W
Nebraska-H	+27	14-35 L/W
Kans St.-H	-14	48-19 W/W
Okla St.-R	+7	14-21 L/T

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	IaSt	OPP.
First Downs	17	16
Rushing Attempts	40	50
Rushing Yards	122	180
Passes Completed	15	9
Passes Attempted	29	22
Passing Yards	200	146
Passes Intercepted	1	0
Punts	7	8
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	8	7
Penalty Yards	67	59
POINTS	23	22

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.1	3.6
Passing Attempt	6.8	6.5
Rush-Pass Play	4.7	4.5
Pass Completion	13.2	15.4

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	69	72
Game Total Yards	322	326
Game Turnovers	2	1
Points 100 Yards	7.1	6.8
MISTAKES	26	23

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	5-3-1

KANSAS

1986 RESULTS

N. Caro.-H	+7	0-20 L/L
Utah St.-H	16-13	W/
Ind. St.-H	20-6	W/
S. Illin.-H	35-23	W/
Iowa St.-H	Pk	10-13 L/L
Kans St.-R	-7	12-29 L/L
Okla St.-R	+13	6-24 L/L
Oklahoma-H	+40	3-64 L/L
Colorado-R	+25	10-17 L/W
Nebraska-H	+31	0-70 L/L
Missouri-R	+7	0-48 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Kan.	OPP.
First Downs	14	26
Rushing Attempts	31	57
Rushing Yards	80	258
Passes Completed	17	12
Passes Attempted	34	22
Passing Yards	180	145
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	7	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	2-1
Penalties	6	6
Penalty Yards	45	50
POINTS	10	30

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	2.6	4.5
Passing Attempt	5.2	6.7
Rush-Pass Play	4.0	5.1
Pass Completion	10.3	11.8

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	65	79
Game Total Yards	260	403
Game Turnovers	4	2
Points 100 Yards	3.9	7.4
MISTAKES	29	19

Straight Up Record	3-8-0
versus the Spread	1-7-0

KANSAS STATE

1986 RESULTS

W. Illin-H	35-7	W/
Tex Tech-R	+15	7-41 L/L
N. Iowa-H	0-17	L/
TCU-R	+21	22-35 L/W
Oklahoma-R	+48	10-56 L/W
Kansas-H	+7	29-12 W/W
Missouri-H	+4	6-17 L/L
Nebraska-R	+42	0-38 L/L
Okla St.-H	+13	3-23 L/L
Iowa St.-R	+14	19-48 L/L
Colorado-H	+22	3-49 L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Kst.	OPP.
First Downs	14	21
Rushing Attempts	45	49
Rushing Yards	135	248
Passes Completed	10	12
Passes Attempted	23	24
Passing Yards	125	166
Passes Intercepted	2	2
Punts	7	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	2-2
Penalties	7	6
Penalty Yards	53	51
POINTS	12	31

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.0	5.1
Passing Attempt	5.5	7.0
Rush-Pass Play	3.8	5.7
Pass Completion	12.7	14.2

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	68	73
Game Total Yards	260	414
Game Turnovers	4	4
Points 100 Yards	4.6	7.5
MISTAKES	26	23

Straight Up Record	2-9-0
versus the Spread	4-5-0

KENTUCKY

1986 RESULTS

Rutgers-H	-10	16-16	T/L
Kent St.-H		37-12	W/
Cinc.-R	-5	37-20	W/W
S. Miss-H	-5	32-0	W/W
Ole Miss-R	-1	13-33	L/L
LSU-H	+7	16-25	L/L
Georgia-H	+6	9-31	L/L
Va. Tech-R	+5	15-17	L/W
Vand'blt-H	-13	34-22	W/L
Florida-H	+8	10-3	W/W
Tennessee-R	+6	9-28	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Ken.	OPP.
First Downs	20	17
Rushing Attempts	47	39
Rushing Yards	193	169
Passes Completed	15	14
Passes Attempted	26	25
Passing Yards	159	166
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	7	6
Penalty Yards	58	59
POINTS	21	19

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.1	4.3
Passing Attempt	6.2	6.5
Rush-Pass Play	4.8	5.2
Pass Completion	10.9	11.7

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	73	64
Game Total Yards	352	335
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.0	5.7
MISTAKES	22	22

Straight Up Record	5-5-1
versus the Spread	4-6-0

LONG BEACH ST.

1986 RESULTS

SD State-R	+9	24-27	L/W
W. Mich.-R		14-13	W/
UCLA-R	+28	23-41	L/W
Cal-Ful.-H		30-20	W/
N Mex St.-R		38-7	W/
Fresno St.-R		12-25	L/
Utah St.-R		14-3	W/
E. Wash.-H		35-34	W/
S Jose St.-R		14-38	L/
UNLV-H		8-31	L/
Pacific-H		38-21	W/

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	LBST	OPP.
First Downs	19	19
Rushing Attempts	31	44
Rushing Yards	99	190
Passes Completed	24	17
Passes Attempted	41	29
Passing Yards	281	205
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	6	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-2
Penalties	8	8
Penalty Yards	66	75
POINTS	23	24

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.2	4.3
Passing Attempt	6.9	7.2
Rush-Pass Play	5.3	5.4
Pass Completion	11.6	12.1

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	72	73
Game Total Yards	380	395
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	6.1	6.1
MISTAKES	30	25

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	2-0-0

LOUISIANA STATE

1986 RESULTS

Tex A&M-H	+3*	35-17	W/W
Miami, O -H		12-21	L/
Florida-R	+1*	28-17	W/W
Georgia-H	-4	23-14	W/W
Kentucky-R	-7	25-16	W/W
N. Caro.-H	-9	30-3	W/W
Ole Miss-H	-10	19-21	L/L
Alabama-R	+10	14-10	W/W
Miss St.-R	-8	47-0	W/W
N. Dame-H	-4	21-19	W/L
Tulane-H	-27	37-17	W/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	LSU	OPP.
First Downs	22	18
Rushing Attempts	42	39
Rushing Yards	171	136
Passes Completed	19	16
Passes Attempted	30	29
Passing Yards	238	192
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	4	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	2-1
Penalties	8	5
Penalty Yards	72	43
POINTS	26	14

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.1	3.5
Passing Attempt	7.8	6.6
Rush-Pass Play	5.7	4.8
Pass Completion	12.7	11.7

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	72	68
Game Total Yards	409	328
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	6.4	4.3
MISTAKES	24	24

Straight Up Record	9-2-0
versus the Spread	7-3-0

LOUISVILLE

1986 RESULTS

Illinois-R	+22	0-23	L/L
Indiana-R	+14	0-21	L/L
West Ky.-H		45-7	W/
Memphis-H	Pk	34-8	W/W
Cinc.-R	+9	17-24	L/W
Bos Col.-R	+15	7-41	L/L
Fla State-H	+25	18-54	L/L
Rutgers-H	+15	0-41	L/L
Tulane-R	+14	23-12	W/W
West Va.-H	+12	19-42	L/L
S. Miss-R	+14	16-31	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Lou.	OPP.
First Downs	20	22
Rushing Attempts	37	50
Rushing Yards	93	212
Passes Completed	16	14
Passes Attempted	34	25
Passing Yards	226	167
Passes Intercepted	1	0
Punts	6	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	2-1
Penalties	8	7
Penalty Yards	55	63
POINTS	16	28

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	2.5	4.3
Passing Attempt	6.6	6.6
Rush-Pass Play	4.5	5.1
Pass Completion	13.8	12.3

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	71	75
Game Total Yards	319	379
Game Turnovers	3	1
Points 100 Yards	5.0	7.4
MISTAKES	30	21

Straight Up Record	3-8-0
versus the Spread	3-7-0

MARYLAND

1986 RESULTS

Pitt-R	-1*	10-7	W/W
Vand'blt-H	-16	35-21	W/L
West Va.-R	-4	24-3	W/W
NC State-H	-17	16-28	L/L
Bos Col.-H	-9	25-30	L/L
W. Forest-H	-11	21-27	L/L
Duke-R	-10	27-19	W/L
N. Caro.-R	+3	30-32	L/W
Penn St.-R	+16	15-17	L/W
Clemson-H	+4	17-17	T/W
Virginia-R	-10	42-10	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Mary	OPP.
First Downs	19	22
Rushing Attempts	39	42
Rushing Yards	145	157
Passes Completed	18	20
Passes Attempted	32	35
Passing Yards	248	222
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	6	6
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	1-1
Penalties	8	6
Penalty Yards	64	52
POINTS	24	19

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.7	3.8
Passing Attempt	7.7	6.4
Rush-Pass Play	5.5	4.9
Pass Completion	13.9	11.4

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	71	77
Game Total Yards	393	379
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.1	5.0
MISTAKES	26	24

Straight Up Record	5-5-1
versus the Spread	6-5-0

MEMPHIS STATE

1986 RESULTS

Ole Miss-R	+7	6-28	L/L
Ark. St.-H		10-30	L/
SW La.-H		10-26	L/
Louis'v1-R	Pk	8-34	L/L
Miss St.-H	+22	17-34	L/W
Alabama-R	+37	0-37	L/T
S. Miss-R	+21	9-14	L/W
Vand'blt-R	+8	22-21	W/W
Tennessee-R	+18	3-33	L/L
Tulane-R	+7	6-15	L/L
N Mexico-H	+2	13-20	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Mem.	OPP.
First Downs	13	18
Rushing Attempts	44	51
Rushing Yards	131	200
Passes Completed	10	11
Passes Attempted	21	21
Passing Yards	107	152
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	7	6
Fumbles-Lost	4-2	3-2
Penalties	6	5
Penalty Yards	42	44
POINTS	9	27

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.0	3.9
Passing Attempt	5.0	7.2
Rush-Pass Play	3.7	4.9
Pass Completion	10.6	13.6

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	65	72
Game Total Yards	238	352
Game Turnovers	4	3
Points 100 Yards	3.8	7.7
MISTAKES	24	19

Straight Up Record	1-10-0
versus the Spread	3-5-1

MIAMI-FLORIDA

1986 RESULTS

S. Caro.-R	-14	34-14	W/W
Florida-R	-4	23-15	W/W
Tex Tech-H	-21	61-11	W/W
Oklahoma-H	+6	28-16	W/W
N. Illin-H		34-0	W/
West Va.-R	-24	58-14	W/W
Cinc.-R	-27	45-13	W/W
Fla St.-H	-13*	41-23	W/W
Pitt-R	-19	37-10	W/W
Tulsa-H	-35	23-10	W/L
E. Caro.-H	-38	36-10	W/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Mia.	OPP.
First Downs	21	16
Rushing Attempts	38	44
Rushing Yards	141	129
Passes Completed	19	12
Passes Attempted	31	26
Passing Yards	281	136
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	5	7
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	4-2
Penalties	8	6
Penalty Yards	70	52
POINTS	38	12

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.7	2.9
Passing Attempt	9.2	5.1
Rush-Pass Play	6.1	3.8
Pass Completion	14.8	11.5

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	69	70
Game Total Yards	422	265
Game Turnovers	2	4
Points 100 Yards	9.0	4.5
MISTAKES	23	28

Straight Up Record	11-0-0
versus the Spread	8-2-0

MICHIGAN

1986 RESULTS

N. Dame-H	-6	24-23	W/L
Ore. St.-H	-39	31-12	W/L
Fla State-H	-9	20-18	W/L
Wisconsin-R	-21	34-17	W/L
Mich St.-H	-10	27-6	W/W
Iowa-H	-7	20-17	W/L
Indiana-R	-15	38-14	W/W
Illinois-H	-25	69-13	W/W
Purdue-R	-31	31-7	W/L
Minnes'ta-H	-25	17-20	L/L
Ohio St.-R	-1*	26-24	W/W
Hawaii-R	-14	27-10	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Mich	OPP.
First Downs	23	18
Rushing Attempts	51	33
Rushing Yards	215	113
Passes Completed	14	16
Passes Attempted	22	30
Passing Yards	219	185
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	3	5
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	2-1
Penalties	7	7
Penalty Yards	59	55
POINTS	30	15

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.2	3.5
Passing Attempt	10.1	6.2
Rush-Pass Play	6.0	4.7
Pass Completion	15.5	11.6

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	73	63
Game Total Yards	434	298
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.9	5.0
MISTAKES	17	25

Straight Up Record	11-1-0
versus the Spread	5-7-0

MICHIGAN STATE

1986 RESULTS

Ariz St.-R	+4	17-20	L/W
N. Dame-H	+1	20-15	W/W
W. Mich-H		45-10	W/L
Iowa-H	Pk	21-24	L/L
Michigan-R	+10	6-27	L/L
Illinois-R	-7	29-21	W/W
Purdue-H	-22	37-3	W/W
Minnes'ta-R	-7	52-23	W/W
Indiana-H	-14	14-17	L/L
Northw'tn-R	-17	21-24	L/L
Wisconsin-H	-15	23-13	W/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Mst.	Opp.
First Downs	21	17
Rushing Attempts	45	38
Rushing Yards	156	109
Passes Completed	19	16
Passes Attempted	28	29
Passing Yards	241	191
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	4	6
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	6	4
Penalty Yards	50	35
POINTS	26	18

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.5	2.9
Passing Attempt	8.7	6.7
Rush-Pass Play	5.4	4.5
Pass Completion	12.9	11.7

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	73	67
Game Total Yards	397	300
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	6.6	6.0
MISTAKES	19	21

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	5-5-0

MINNESOTA

1986 RESULTS

Bwl Green-H	31-7	W/L
Oklahoma-R	+29	0-63
Pacific-H	-14	20-24
Purdue-R	+2	36-9
Northw'tn-H	-15	44-23
Indiana-H	-1	19-17
Ohio St.-R	+12+	0-33
Mich St.-H	+7	23-52
Wisconsin-R	-2+	27-20
Michigan-R	+25	20-17
Iowa-H	+6	27-30

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Minn	Opp.
First Downs	19	20
Rushing Attempts	50	43
Rushing Yards	229	154
Passes Completed	9	16
Passes Attempted	19	27
Passing Yards	121	199
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	5	4
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	2-1
Penalties	5	4
Penalty Yards	44	32
POINTS	22	27

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.6	3.6
Passing Attempt	6.4	7.3
Rush-Pass Play	5.1	5.0
Pass Completion	14.1	12.6

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	69	70
Game Total Yards	350	353
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	6.3	7.7
MISTAKES	20	21

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	6-4-0

MISSISSIPPI

1986 RESULTS

Memphis-H	-7	28-6	W/W
Arkansas-R	+9+	0-21	L/L
Ark St.-H		10-10	T/L
Tulane-H	-7	35-10	W/W
Georgia-R	+14	10-14	L/W
Kentucky-H	+1	33-13	W/W
SW La.-H		21-20	W/L
Vand'blt-R	-7	28-12	W/W
LSU-R	+10	21-19	W/W
Tennessee-H	-6	10-22	L/L
Miss St.-R	-5+	24-3	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Miss	Opp.
First Downs	17	19
Rushing Attempts	42	46
Rushing Yards	151	158
Passes Completed	12	11
Passes Attempted	24	23
Passing Yards	150	138
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	6
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	3-1
Penalties	6	7
Penalty Yards	55	56
POINTS	20	14

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.6	3.4
Passing Attempt	6.2	5.9
Rush-Pass Play	4.6	4.3
Pass Completion	12.5	12.2

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	66	69
Game Total Yards	301	296
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.6	4.7
MISTAKES	23	24

Straight Up Record	7-3-1
versus the Spread	7-2-0

MISSISSIPPI ST.

1986 RESULTS

Syracuse-R	+10	24-17	W/W
Tennessee-R	+11	27-23	W/W
S. Miss-R	-7	24-28	L/L
Florida-H	+5+	16-10	W/W
Memphis-R	-22	34-17	W/L
Ark St.-H		24-9	W/L
Tulane-R	-14	34-27	W/L
Auburn-H	+10	6-35	L/L
Alabama-H	+12+	3-38	L/L
LSU-H	+8	0-47	L/L
Ole Miss-R	+5+	3-24	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Mst	Opp.
First Downs	16	22
Rushing Attempts	44	52
Rushing Yards	187	259
Passes Completed	11	10
Passes Attempted	23	18
Passing Yards	140	143
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	4
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	3-1
Penalties	7	7
Penalty Yards	50	58
POINTS	18	25

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.3	5.0
Passing Attempt	6.0	7.9
Rush-Pass Play	4.9	5.7
Pass Completion	12.4	14.7

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	67	70
Game Total Yards	327	402
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	5.5	6.2
MISTAKES	24	20

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	3-7-0

MISSOURI

1986 RESULTS

Utah St.-H	24-10	W/L
Texas-H	+8	25-27
Indiana-H	-4	24-41
Syracuse-R	+5+	9-41
Colorado-H	+7+	12-17
Nebraska-R	+34	17-48
Kans St.-R	-4	17-6
Iowa St.-H	-2	14-37
Oklahoma-R	+46	0-77
Kansas-H	-7	48-0
Okl St.-R	+14	6-10

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Mo.	Opp.
First Downs	15	20
Rushing Attempts	51	47
Rushing Yards	214	241
Passes Completed	8	14
Passes Attempted	18	25
Passing Yards	105	188
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	7	4
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	3-2
Penalties	6	6
Penalty Yards	48	51
POINTS	18	29

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.2	5.1
Passing Attempt	6.0	7.7
Rush-Pass Play	4.6	6.0
Pass Completion	13.0	13.0

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	69	72
Game Total Yards	319	429
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	5.6	6.8
MISTAKES	20	21

Straight Up Record	2-9-0
versus the Spread	6-4-0

NAVY

1986 RESULTS

Virginia-H	+5+	20-10	W/W
Indiana-R	-2	29-52	L/L
Lehigh-H		41-0	W/L
Dartm'th-H	-33	45-0	W/W
A. Force-R	+5	6-40	L/L
Penn-H	-17	26-30	L/L
Pitt-R	+18	14-56	L/L
N. Dame-R	+25	14-33	L/W
Syracuse-R	+13	22-31	L/W
Delaware-H		14-27	L/L
Army-N	-1	7-27	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Navy	Opp.
First Downs	20	18
Rushing Attempts	40	47
Rushing Yards	167	168
Passes Completed	16	15
Passes Attempted	33	27
Passing Yards	191	213
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	8	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	2-1
Penalties	7	7
Penalty Yards	61	58
POINTS	22	28

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.2	3.6
Passing Attempt	5.8	7.9
Rush-Pass Play	4.9	5.1
Pass Completion	11.9	14.2

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	73	74
Game Total Yards	358	381
Game Turnovers	3	2
Points 100 Yards	6.1	7.3
MISTAKES	28	22

Straight Up Record	3-8-0
versus the Spread	4-5-0

NEBRASKA

1986 RESULTS

Fla State-H	-7	34-17	W/W
Illinois-R	-20	59-14	W/W
Oregon-H	-37	48-14	W/L
S. Caro.-R	-25	27-24	W/L
Okl St.-H	-29	30-10	W/L
Missouri-R	-34	48-17	W/L
Colorado-R	-16+	10-20	L/L
Kans St.-H	-42	38-0	W/L
Iowa St.-R	-27	35-14	W/L
Kansas-R	-31	70-0	W/W
Oklahoma-H	+8	17-20	L/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Neb.	Opp.
First Downs	23	13
Rushing Attempts	59	40
Rushing Yards	305	96
Passes Completed	7	11
Passes Attempted	15	23
Passing Yards	96	140
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	4	7
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	3-1
Penalties	7	7
Penalty Yards	60	55
POINTS	38	14

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	5.1	2.4
Passing Attempt	6.3	6.0
Rush-Pass Play	5.4	3.8
Pass Completion	14.7	12.5

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	74	63
Game Total Yards	401	236
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	9.5	5.9
MISTAKES	20	24

Straight Up Record	9-2-0
versus the Spread	4-7-0

NEW MEXICO

1986 RESULTS

Tennessee-R	+22	21-35	L/W
BYU-R	+22	30-31	L/W
Tex Tech-R	+7	7-14	L/T
SD State-H	-2	34-38	L/L
Hawaii-R	+8	10-27	L/L
UTEP-H	-7	24-22	W/L
Utah-H	-8	47-43	W/L
N Mex St.-H		45-14	W/L
Wyoming-R	+9	25-35	L/L
Tulsa-H	+6	27-34	L/L
Colo St.-R	+10	27-32	L/W
Memphis-R	-2	20-13	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	N.M.	Opp.
First Downs	23	26
Rushing Attempts	44	44
Rushing Yards	187	202
Passes Completed	18	22
Passes Attempted	31	39
Passing Yards	252	282
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	4-1	2-1
Penalties	5	7
Penalty Yards	40	59
POINTS	26	28

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.2	4.6
Passing Attempt	8.3	7.2
Rush-Pass Play	5.9	5.8
Pass Completion	14.2	12.9

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	75	83
Game Total Yards	439	484
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	5.9	5.8
MISTAKES	23	28

Straight Up Record	4-8-0
versus the Spread	4-6-1

N. MEXICO STATE

1986 RESULTS

Angelo St.-H	14-20	L/
Cal-Ful.-H	24-21	W/
UTEP-H	+3 33-47	L/L
Pacific-R	14-41	L/
Arkansas-R	+30 11-42	L/L
Utah St.-R	9-42	L/
Fresno St.-R	14-17	L/
L. Beach-H	7-38	L/
N. Mexico-R	14-45	L/
S. Jose St.-H	7-45	L/
UNLV-H	42-58	L/

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	NMST	OPP.
First Downs	19	20
Rushing Attempts	44	49
Rushing Yards	148	210
Passes Completed	15	13
Passes Attempted	33	25
Passing Yards	163	198
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	7	6
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	3-1
Penalties	6	8
Penalty Yards	53	78
POINTS	17	38

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.3	4.3
Passing Attempt	4.9	7.8
Rush-Pass Play	4.0	5.5
Pass Completion	10.9	15.0

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	77	74
Game Total Yards	311	408
Game Turnovers	3	2
Points 100 Yards	5.5	9.3
MISTAKES	31	25

Straight Up Record	1-10-0
versus the Spread	0-2-0

NORTH CAROLINA

1986 RESULTS

Citadel-H	45-14	W/
Kansas-R	-7 20-0	W/W
Fla State-R	+9 10-10	T/W
Ga Tech-H	-10 21-20	W/L
W. Forest-R	-6 40-30	W/W
NC State-H	-10 34-35	L/L
LSU-R	+9 3-30	L/L
Maryland-H	-3 32-30	W/L
Clemson-R	+7 10-38	L/L
Virginia-H	-10 27-7	W/W
Duke-R	-8* 42-35	W/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	N.C.	OPP.
First Downs	22	20
Rushing Attempts	50	40
Rushing Yards	260	158
Passes Completed	14	18
Passes Attempted	24	31
Passing Yards	184	236
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	2-1
Penalties	6	6
Penalty Yards	51	48
POINTS	26	23

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	5.2	4.0
Passing Attempt	7.5	7.7
Rush-Pass Play	6.0	5.6
Pass Completion	13.1	13.4

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	74	71
Game Total Yards	444	394
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	5.9	5.8
MISTAKES	21	23

Straight Up Record	7-3-1
versus the Spread	4-6-0

N. CAROLINA ST.

1986 RESULTS

E. Caro.-H	-5* 38-10	W/W
Pitt-H	+6 14-14	T/W
W. Forest-H	-4 42-38	W/T
Maryland-R	+17 28-16	W/W
Ga. Tech-R	+4 21-59	L/L
N. Caro.-R	+10 35-34	W/W
Clemson-H	+9 27-3	W/W
S. Caro.-H	-1 23-22	W/T
Virginia-R	-6 16-20	L/L
Duke-H	-10 29-15	W/W
W. Caro.-H	31-18	W/

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	NCST	OPP.
First Downs	20	22
Rushing Attempts	44	43
Rushing Yards	163	174
Passes Completed	14	21
Passes Attempted	27	36
Passing Yards	198	229
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-2
Penalties	4	7
Penalty Yards	37	63
POINTS	28	23

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.7	4.1
Passing Attempt	7.3	6.3
Rush-Pass Play	5.1	5.1
Pass Completion	14.3	11.0

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	71	79
Game Total Yards	361	403
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	7.8	5.7
MISTAKES	22	27

Straight Up Record	8-2-1
versus the Spread	6-2-2

NORTHWESTERN

1986 RESULTS

Duke-H	+6 6-17	L/L
Army-H	+12 25-18	W/W
Princeton-R	-19 37-0	W/W
Indiana-H	+9 7-24	L/L
Minnes'ta-R	+15 23-44	L/L
Wisconsin-H	+7 27-35	L/L
Iowa-R	+32 20-27	L/W
Purdue-H	-2 16-17	L/L
Ohio St.-R	+31 9-30	L/W
Mich St.-H	+17 24-21	W/W
Illinois-R	+10 23-18	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	N.W.	OPP.
First Downs	19	20
Rushing Attempts	45	47
Rushing Yards	167	198
Passes Completed	13	13
Passes Attempted	26	24
Passing Yards	176	166
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	3-2
Penalties	4	6
Penalty Yards	42	53
POINTS	20	23

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.7	4.2
Passing Attempt	6.7	6.8
Rush-Pass Play	4.8	5.1
Pass Completion	13.2	12.8

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	71	71
Game Total Yards	343	364
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	5.8	6.3
MISTAKES	22	22

Straight Up Record	4-7-0
versus the Spread	6-5-0

NOTRE DAME

1986 RESULTS

Michigan-R	+6 23-24	L/W
Mich St.-R	-1 15-20	L/L
Purdue-H	-17 41-9	W/W
Alabama-R	+7 10-28	L/L
Pitt-H	-7 9-10	L/L
A. Force-H	-9* 31-3	W/W
Navy-R	-25 33-14	W/L
SMU-H	-9 61-29	W/W
Penn St.-H	+5 19-24	L/T
LSU-R	+4 19-21	L/W
USC-R	Pk 38-37	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	N.D.	OPP.
First Downs	23	17
Rushing Attempts	48	39
Rushing Yards	191	122
Passes Completed	15	15
Passes Attempted	26	28
Passing Yards	222	193
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	4	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	5	5
Penalty Yards	50	42
POINTS	27	20

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.0	3.2
Passing Attempt	8.4	6.9
Rush-Pass Play	5.6	4.7
Pass Completion	14.5	12.7

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	74	67
Game Total Yards	413	315
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.5	6.4
MISTAKES	19	22

Straight Up Record	5-6-0
versus the Spread	6-4-1

OHIO STATE

1986 RESULTS

Alabama-H	+4 10-16	L/L
Washng'tn-R	Pk 7-40	L/L
Colorado-H	-16 13-10	W/L
Utah-H	-19 64-6	W/W
Illinois-H	-17 14-0	W/L
Indiana-R	-7 24-22	W/L
Purdue-R	-21 39-11	W/W
Minnes'ta-H	-12* 33-0	W/W
Iowa-R	+3 31-10	W/W
Northws'tn-H	-31 30-9	W/L
Wisconsin-R	-19 30-17	W/L
Michigan-H	+1* 24-26	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Ohio	OPP.
First Downs	20	18
Rushing Attempts	46	41
Rushing Yards	200	149
Passes Completed	14	15
Passes Attempted	25	28
Passing Yards	192	178
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	4	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-2
Penalties	5	5
Penalty Yards	39	45
POINTS	27	14

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.4	3.6
Passing Attempt	7.8	6.3
Rush-Pass Play	5.5	4.7
Pass Completion	14.1	12.2

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	71	69
Game Total Yards	392	327
Game Turnovers	2	4
Points 100 Yards	6.9	4.3
MISTAKES	19	25

Straight Up Record	9-3-0
versus the Spread	4-8-0

OKLAHOMA

1986 RESULTS

UCLA-H	-7 38-3	W/W
Minnes'ta-H	-29 63-0	W/W
Miami,F-R	-6 16-28	L/L
Kans St.-H	-48 56-10	W/L
Texas-R	-25 47-12	W/W
Okla St.-H	-33 19-0	W/L
Iowa St.-R	-33 38-0	W/W
Kansas-R	-40 64-3	W/W
Missouri-H	-46 77-0	W/W
Colorado-R	-24 28-0	W/W
Nebraska-R	-8 20-17	W/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Okla	OPP.
First Downs	22	11
Rushing Attempts	65	37
Rushing Yards	407	64
Passes Completed	3	12
Passes Attempted	8	24
Passing Yards	69	109
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	4	9
Fumbles-Lost	4-1	3-2
Penalties	5	4
Penalty Yards	42	32
POINTS	42	7

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	6.2	1.7
Passing Attempt	8.6	4.6
Rush-Pass Play	6.5	2.8
Pass Completion	20.0	9.4

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	73	61
Game Total Yards	476	173
Game Turnovers	2	4
Points 100 Yards	8.8	4.1
MISTAKES	15	22

Straight Up Record	10-1-0
versus the Spread	7-4-0

OKLAHOMA STATE

1986 RESULTS

SW La.-R	21-20	W/
Tulsa-R	-5 23-27	L/L
Houston-H	-12 12-28	L/L
Illin. St-H	23-7	W/
Nebraska-R	+29 10-30	L/W
Oklahoma-R	+33 0-19	L/W
Kansas-H	-13 24-6	W/W
Colorado-H	+2 14-31	L/L
Kans St.-R	-13 23-3	W/W
Iowa St.-H	-7 21-14	W/T
Missouri-H	-14 10-6	W/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	OkSt	OPP.
First Downs	18	18
Rushing Attempts	41	51
Rushing Yards	132	207
Passes Completed	15	17
Passes Attempted	31	18
Passing Yards	187	121
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	7	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	4-2
Penalties	6	7
Penalty Yards	53	55
POINTS	19	29

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.3	4.1
Passing Attempt	6.0	6.9
Rush-Pass Play	4.4	4.8
Pass Completion	12.6	7.1

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	72	69
Game Total Yards	319	328
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	6.0	8.8
MISTAKES	27	13

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	4-4-1

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OREGON

1986 RESULTS

S Jose St-R	-10	21-14	W/L
Colorado-H	-1	32-30	W/W
Arizona-H	+8	17-41	L/L
Nebraska-R	+37	14-48	L/W
USC-R	+20	21-35	L/W
Ariz. St-H	+10*	17-37	L/L
Stanford-H	+6*	7-41	L/L
Washng'tn-R	+25	3-38	L/L
Calif.-R	+3	27-9	W/W
Wash St.-H	-2	27-17	W/W
Ore St.-R	Pk	49-28	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Ore.	OPP.
First Downs	21	21
Rushing Attempts	36	44
Rushing Yards	112	208
Passes Completed	22	15
Passes Attempted	38	27
Passing Yards	250	198
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	4
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	3-2
Penalties	6	7
Penalty Yards	55	66
POINTS	21	31

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	3.1	4.7
Passing Attempt	6.5	7.3
Rush-Pass Play	4.9	5.7
Pass Completion	11.5	13.1

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	74	71
Game Total Yards	362	406
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	5.8	7.6
MISTAKES	26	24

Straight Up Record	5-6-0
versus the Spread	6-5-0

OREGON STATE

1986 RESULTS

Fresno St-R	+14	0-27	L/L
Michigan-R	+39	12-31	L/W
Stanford-H	+13	7-17	L/W
Wash St.-R	+13	14-24	L/W
Calif.-R	+9	14-12	W/W
Arizona-R	+25	12-23	L/W
Boise St.-H		34-3	W/
UCLA-H	+20	0-49	L/L
Washng'tn-H	+23	12-28	L/W
BYU-R	+17	10-7	W/W
Oregon-H	Pk	28-49	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	OrSt	OPP.
First Downs	19	20
Rushing Attempts	27	40
Rushing Yards	41	167
Passes Completed	28	17
Passes Attempted	48	28
Passing Yards	286	208
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	6	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	7	8
Penalty Yards	62	71
POINTS	13	25

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	1.5	4.2
Passing Attempt	6.0	7.5
Rush-Pass Play	4.4	5.5
Pass Completion	10.1	12.3

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	75	68
Game Total Yards	327	375
Game Turnovers	3	2
Points 100 Yards	4.0	6.7
MISTAKES	32	24

Straight Up Record	3-8-0
versus the Spread	7-3-0

PACIFIC

1986 RESULTS

Sacr St.-H	31-7	W/
Wyoming-R	+11	20-23
N Mex St.-H	41-14	W/
Minnes'ta-R	+14	24-20
Cal-Davis-H	41-45	L/
UNLV-H	21-15	W/
Fresno St-R	9-10	L/
S J State-H	15-44	L/
Utah St.-R	10-14	L/
Cal-Ful.-R	38-39	L/
L. Beach-R	21-38	L/

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Pac.	OPP.
First Downs	23	20
Rushing Attempts	62	36
Rushing Yards	272	146
Passes Completed	8	18
Passes Attempted	19	31
Passing Yards	138	239
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	4	4
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	2-2
Penalties	5	7
Penalty Yards	46	64
POINTS	25	24

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	4.4	4.0
Passing Attempt	7.4	7.8
Rush-Pass Play	5.1	5.8
Pass Completion	16.7	13.1

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	81	67
Game Total Yards	410	385
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	6.1	6.2
MISTAKES	20	23

Straight Up Record	4-7-0
versus the Spread	2-0-0

PENNSYLVANIA

1986 RESULTS

Dartm'th-R	-7	21-7	W/W
Bucknell-H		10-7	W/
Columbia-H	-29	42-7	W/W
Brown-R	+3	34-0	W/W
Navy-R	+17	30-26	W/W
Yale-H	-11	24-6	W/W
Princet'n-R	-17	23-10	W/L
Lafay'te-H		42-14	W/
Harvard-H	-20	17-10	W/L
Cornell-R	-5*	31-21	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Penn	OPP.
First Downs	21	14
Rushing Attempts	53	35
Rushing Yards	267	91
Passes Completed	10	12
Passes Attempted	18	26
Passing Yards	129	131
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	6
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	10	6
Penalty Yards	83	56
POINTS	27	11

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	5.0	2.6
Passing Attempt	7.1	5.1
Rush-Pass Play	5.6	3.6
Pass Completion	13.3	11.2

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	71	61
Game Total Yards	396	222
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.8	5.0
MISTAKES	22	23

Straight Up Record	10-0-0
versus the Spread	6-2-0

PENN STATE

1986 RESULTS

Temple-H	-13	45-15	W/W
Bos Col-R	-13	26-14	W/L
E. Caro.-H	-29	42-17	W/L
Rutgers-H	-15	31-6	W/W
Cinc.-H	-24	23-17	W/L
Syracuse-H	-20	42-3	W/L
Alabama-R	+6	23-3	W/W
West Va.-R	-20	19-0	W/L
Maryland-H	-16	17-15	W/L
N. Dame-R	-5	24-19	W/T
Pitt-H	-14	34-14	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Pst.	OPP.
First Downs	21	16
Rushing Attempts	52	35
Rushing Yards	241	70
Passes Completed	12	19
Passes Attempted	22	34
Passing Yards	158	214
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	6	8
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	6	6
Penalty Yards	59	54
POINTS	30	11

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	4.6	2.0
Passing Attempt	7.1	6.2
Rush-Pass Play	5.4	4.1
Pass Completion	13.4	11.5

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	74	69
Game Total Yards	399	284
Game Turnovers	2	3
Points 100 Yards	7.5	3.9
MISTAKES	20	28

Straight Up Record	11-0-0
versus the Spread	5-5-1

PITTSBURGH

1986 RESULTS

Maryland-H	+1*	7-10	L/L
NC State-R	-6	14-14	T/L
Purdue-R	-3	41-26	W/W
West Va.-H	-8	48-16	W/W
Temple-H	-10	13-19	W/L
N. Dame-R	+7	10-9	W/W
Navy-H	-18	56-14	W/W
Syracuse-R	-9	20-24	L/L
Miami, F-H	+19	10-37	L/L
Rutgers-H	-7	20-6	W/W
Penn St-R	+14	14-34	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Pit.	OPP.
First Downs	20	16
Rushing Attempts	40	39
Rushing Yards	136	100
Passes Completed	19	15
Passes Attempted	35	30
Passing Yards	240	183
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	7	8
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	7	6
Penalty Yards	57	49
POINTS	23	19

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	3.4	2.5
Passing Attempt	6.9	6.2
Rush-Pass Play	5.0	4.1
Pass Completion	12.5	12.5

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	75	69
Game Total Yards	376	283
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.1	6.7
MISTAKES	26	25

Straight Up Record	5-5-1
versus the Spread	5-6-0

PRINCETON

1986 RESULTS

Cornell-R	+7	8-39	L/L
Northw'n-H	+19	0-37	L/L
Brown-H	+13	10-24	L/L
Columbia-R	-13*	20-14	W/L
Lehigh-H		28-48	L/
Harvard-H	+6	14-3	W/W
Penn-H	+17	10-23	L/W
Wm-Mary-R		14-32	L/
Yale-R	+6	13-14	L/W
Dartm'th-H	+1	6-28	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Prin	OPP.
First Downs	17	19
Rushing Attempts	41	40
Rushing Yards	134	168
Passes Completed	11	15
Passes Attempted	24	26
Passing Yards	136	198
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	6	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	2-1
Penalties	7	6
Penalty Yards	61	49
POINTS	12	26

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	3.3	4.2
Passing Attempt	5.8	7.5
Rush-Pass Play	4.2	5.6
Pass Completion	12.4	13.2

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	65	66
Game Total Yards	270	366
Game Turnovers	4	2
Points 100 Yards	4.4	7.1
MISTAKES	26	21

Straight Up Record	2-8-0
versus the Spread	3-5-0

PURDUE

1986 RESULTS

Ball St.-H		20-3	W/
Pitt-H	+3	26-41	L/L
N. Dame-R	+17	9-41	L/L
Minnes'ta-H	-2	9-36	L/L
Illinois-R	+8*	27-34	L/W
Ohio St.-H	+21	11-39	L/L
Mich St.-R	+22	3-37	L/L
Northw'n-R	+2	17-16	W/W
Michigan-H	+31	7-31	L/W
Iowa-R	+25	14-42	L/L
Indiana-H	+11	17-15	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Pur.	OPP.
First Downs	15	23
Rushing Attempts	27	50
Rushing Yards	57	207
Passes Completed	19	16
Passes Attempted	36	26
Passing Yards	194	224
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	6	4
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	5	7
Penalty Yards	43	60
POINTS	15	30

AVERAGE YARDS PER		
Rushing Attempt	2.1	4.1
Passing Attempt	5.4	8.6
Rush-Pass Play	4.0	5.7
Pass Completion	10.4	14.0

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	63	76
Game Total Yards	251	431
Game Turnovers	3	2
Points 100 Yards	6.0	7.0
MISTAKES	28	21

Straight Up Record	3-8-0
versus the Spread	4-6-0

RICE**1986 RESULTS**

Lamar-H	28-14	W/
SMU-H	+13 3-45	L/L
SW Texas-H	6-31	L/
Texas-H	+20 14-17	L/W
TCU-R	+14 37-31	W/W
Tex Tech-H	+6 21-49	L/L
Tex A&M-R	+31 10-45	L/L
Arkansas-R	+26 14-45	L/L
Baylor-H	+24 17-23	L/W
A. Force-H	+12 21-17	W/W
Houston-R	+4 14-13	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Rice	OPP.
First Downs	17	20
Rushing Attempts	36	51
Rushing Yards	107	237
Passes Completed	15	11
Passes Attempted	31	22
Passing Yards	206	157
Passes Intercepted	3	1
Punts	6	4
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-2
Penalties	7	6
Penalty Yards	53	53
POINTS	17	30

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.0	4.6
Passing Attempt	6.6	7.2
Rush-Pass Play	4.7	5.4
Pass Completion	13.3	14.2

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	67	73
Game Total Yards	313	394
Game Turnovers	4	3
Points 100 Yards	5.4	7.6
MISTAKES	30	21

Straight Up Record	4-7-0
versus the Spread	5-4-0

RUTGERS**1986 RESULTS**

Bos. Col.-R	+12* 11-9	W/W
Kentucky-R	+10 16-16	T/W
Cinc.-H	-5 48-28	W/W
Syracuse-R	+2 16-10	W/W
Penn St.-R	+15 6-31	L/L
Florida-H	+7 3-15	L/L
Army-H	-7 35-7	W/W
Louis'v1-R	-15 41-0	W/W
West Va.-H	-8 17-24	L/L
Pitt-R	+7 6-20	L/L
Temple-H	Pk 22-29	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Rutg	OPP.
First Downs	20	18
Rushing Attempts	43	42
Rushing Yards	165	144
Passes Completed	17	16
Passes Attempted	30	27
Passing Yards	189	187
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	7	6
Penalty Yards	66	51
POINTS	20	17

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.8	3.4
Passing Attempt	6.3	6.9
Rush-Pass Play	4.9	4.8
Pass Completion	11.2	11.9

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	73	69
Game Total Yards	354	331
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	5.7	5.1
MISTAKES	24	21

Straight Up Record	5-5-1
versus the Spread	6-5-0

S. DIEGO STATE**1986 RESULTS**

L. Beach-H	-9 27-24	W/L
Utah-R	+6* 37-30	W/W
UCLA-H	+14 14-45	L/L
N. Mexico-R	+2 38-34	W/W
Stanford-R	+14 10-17	L/W
UTEP-R	-6 15-10	W/L
A. Force-H	+3* 10-22	L/L
Colo. St-R	+7* 27-26	W/W
Wyoming-H	-1 31-24	W/W
Hawaii-H	-3 35-5	W/W
BYU-H	+3 10-3	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	SOS	OPP.
First Downs	20	18
Rushing Attempts	40	36
Rushing Yards	110	141
Passes Completed	22	18
Passes Attempted	35	34
Passing Yards	251	214
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	6	6
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	8	7
Penalty Yards	62	55
POINTS	23	22

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	2.7	4.0
Passing Attempt	7.1	6.2
Rush-Pass Play	4.8	5.1
Pass Completion	11.5	12.1

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	75	70
Game Total Yards	361	355
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.4	6.2
MISTAKES	25	29

Straight Up Record	8-3-0
versus the Spread	7-4-0

SAN JOSE STATE**1986 RESULTS**

Oregon-H	+10 14-21	L/W
Wash St.-R	+17 20-13	W/W
Stanford-R	+10 10-28	L/L
Calif.-R	+10 35-14	W/W
Fresno St-H	45-41	W/
Utah St-H	38-28	W/
UNLV-R	23-20	W/
Pacific-R	44-15	W/
N Mex St-R	45-7	W/
Cal-Ful.-R	48-24	W/
L Beach-H	38-14	W/

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	SJS	OPP.
First Downs	24	18
Rushing Attempts	41	35
Rushing Yards	172	80
Passes Completed	25	19
Passes Attempted	42	35
Passing Yards	312	248
Passes Intercepted	2	2
Punts	5	7
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	3-2
Penalties	12	6
Penalty Yards	108	52
POINTS	33	20

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.2	2.3
Passing Attempt	7.5	7.0
Rush-Pass Play	5.8	4.7
Pass Completion	12.5	13.2

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	83	70
Game Total Yards	484	328
Game Turnovers	4	4
Points 100 Yards	6.8	6.1
MISTAKES	35	29

Straight Up Record	9-2-0
versus the Spread	3-1-0

S. CALIFORNIA**1986 RESULTS**

Illinois-H	-11 31-16	W/W
Baylor-R	+5 17-14	W/W
Washg'tn-H	+5 20-10	W/W
Oregon-H	-20 35-21	W/L
Wash St.-R	-10 14-34	L/L
Ariz St.-H	Pk 20-29	L/L
Stanford-R	+1* 10-0	W/W
Arizona-R	+4* 20-13	W/W
Calif.-H	-26 28-3	W/L
UCLA-R	+4 25-45	L/L
N. Dame-H	Pk 37-38	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	USC	OPP.
First Downs	18	20
Rushing Attempts	43	46
Rushing Yards	149	177
Passes Completed	14	17
Passes Attempted	26	28
Passing Yards	203	194
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	4	4
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	2-1
Penalties	6	6
Penalty Yards	58	58
POINTS	23	20

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.5	3.9
Passing Attempt	7.7	6.9
Rush-Pass Play	5.1	5.0
Pass Completion	14.1	11.5

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	69	74
Game Total Yards	352	371
Game Turnovers	3	2
Points 100 Yards	6.5	5.4
MISTAKES	23	21

Straight Up Record	7-4-0
versus the Spread	5-6-0

SOUTH CAROLINA**1986 RESULTS**

Miami,F-H	+14 14-34	L/L
Virginia-R	+5 20-30	L/L
W. Caro.-H	45-24	W/
Georgia-H	+10 26-31	L/W
Nebraska-H	+25 24-27	L/W
Va. Tech-R	+3* 27-27	T/W
E. Caro.-H	-19 38-3	W/W
NC State-R	+1 22-23	L/T
Fla. St.-H	+6* 28-45	L/L
W. Forest-H	-8 48-21	W/W
Clemson-R	+7 21-21	T/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	SCar	OPP.
First Downs	21	20
Rushing Attempts	38	45
Rushing Yards	119	174
Passes Completed	20	13
Passes Attempted	32	28
Passing Yards	290	193
Passes Intercepted	2	2
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	2-1
Penalties	6	7
Penalty Yards	55	59
POINTS	28	26

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.1	3.9
Passing Attempt	9.0	6.9
Rush-Pass Play	5.8	5.0
Pass Completion	14.8	14.4

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	70	73
Game Total Yards	409	367
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	6.9	7.1
MISTAKES	25	27

Straight Up Record	3-6-2
versus the Spread	6-3-1

S. METHODIST**1986 RESULTS**

Rice-R	-13 45-3	W/W
Ariz St.-R	+3 0-30	L/L
TCU-H	-12 31-21	W/L
Bos. Col-H	+6* 31-29	W/L
Baylor-R	+8* 27-21	W/W
Houston-H	-15 10-3	W/W
Texas-R	-6 24-27	L/L
Tex A&M-H	+5 35-39	L/W
N. Dame-R	+9 29-61	L/L
Tex Tech-R	+1 13-7	W/W
Arkansas-H	+3* 0-41	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	SMU	OPP.
First Downs	20	21
Rushing Attempts	45	47
Rushing Yards	171	208
Passes Completed	14	13
Passes Attempted	27	26
Passing Yards	189	167
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	3-1
Penalties	6	5
Penalty Yards	48	45
POINTS	22	26

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.8	4.4
Passing Attempt	7.0	6.4
Rush-Pass Play	5.0	5.1
Pass Completion	13.1	13.2

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	72	73
Game Total Yards	360	375
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.1	6.9
MISTAKES	24	22

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	4-7-0

S. MISSISSIPPI**1986 RESULTS**

NE La.-H	28-19	W/
Alabama-R	+17 17-31	L/W
Miss St.-R	+7 28-24	W/W
Tex A&M-H	+16 7-16	L/W
Kentucky-R	+5 0-32	L/L
Memphis-H	-21 14-9	W/L
Tulane-R	-6 20-35	L/L
E. Caro.-R	-7* 23-21	W/L
SW La.-H	17-0	W/
Fla St.-R	+25 13-49	L/L
Louis'v1-H	-14 31-16	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	SMiss	OPP.
First Downs	18	20
Rushing Attempts	49	44
Rushing Yards	186	181
Passes Completed	8	15
Passes Attempted	16	29
Passing Yards	110	193
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	6	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	5	5
Penalty Yards	41	34
POINTS	18	23

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.8	4.1
Passing Attempt	6.7	6.7
Rush-Pass Play	4.6	5.1
Pass Completion	13.0	13.1

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	65	73
Game Total Yards	296	374
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.1	6.2
MISTAKES	16	22

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	4-5-0

STANFORD

1986 RESULTS

Texas-R	+8	31-20	W/W
S J St.-H	-10	28-10	W/W
Ore St.-R	-13	17-7	W/L
S O St.-H	-14	17-10	W/L
Washng'tn-H	+10	14-24	L/T
Oregon-R	-6+	41-7	W/W
USC-H	-1+	0-10	L/L
Wash St.-H	-8	42-12	W/W
UCLA-R	+11	28-23	W/W
Calif.-R	-18+	11-17	L/L
Arizona-N	+3+	29-24	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Stan	OPP.
First Downs	19	18
Rushing Attempts	38	37
Rushing Yards	139	104
Passes Completed	20	19
Passes Attempted	33	34
Passing Yards	214	218
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	6	6
Fumbles-Lost	2-0	2-1
Penalties	6	5
Penalty Yards	64	46
POINTS	23	15

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.6	2.8
Passing Attempt	6.6	6.5
Rush-Pass Play	5.0	4.5
Pass Completion	10.5	11.3

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	71	71
Game Total Yards	353	322
Game Turnovers	1	3
Points 100 Yards	6.5	4.7
MISTAKES	22	25

Straight Up Record	8-3-0
versus the Spread	6-4-1

SYRACUSE

1986 RESULTS

Miss St.-H	-10	17-24	L/L
Army-R	-7	28-33	L/L
Va. Tech-H	-7	17-26	L/L
Rutgers-H	-2	10-16	L/L
Missouri-H	-5+	41-9	W/W
Penn St.-R	+20	3-42	L/L
Temple-R	+7	27-24	W/W
Pitt-H	+9	24-20	W/W
Navy-H	-13	31-22	W/L
Bos. Col-R	+7	9-27	L/L
West Va.-R	+3	34-23	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Syr.	OPP.
First Downs	19	20
Rushing Attempts	44	51
Rushing Yards	163	239
Passes Completed	13	13
Passes Attempted	25	23
Passing Yards	174	152
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	2-1
Penalties	5	6
Penalty Yards	44	47
POINTS	22	24

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.7	4.7
Passing Attempt	7.1	6.5
Rush-Pass Play	4.9	5.3
Pass Completion	13.3	11.8

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	69	74
Game Total Yards	337	391
Game Turnovers	3	2
Points 100 Yards	6.5	6.1
MISTAKES	21	20

Straight Up Record	5-6-0
versus the Spread	4-7-0

TEMPLE

1986 RESULTS

Penn St.-R	+13	14-45	L/L
W. Mich.-R	-	49-17	W/L
Fla A&M-H	-	38-17	W/L
BYU-R	+10	17-27	L/T
Pitt-R	+10	19-13	W/W
E. Caro.-H	-18	45-28	W/L
Va. Tech-R	+2	29-13	W/W
Syracuse-H	-7	24-27	L/L
Bos. Col-H	+1	29-38	L/L
Alabama-R	+21	14-24	L/W
Rutgers-R	Pk	29-22	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Tem.	OPP.
First Downs	20	21
Rushing Attempts	51	44
Rushing Yards	218	185
Passes Completed	11	15
Passes Attempted	19	30
Passing Yards	164	208
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	6	6
Penalty Yards	55	45
POINTS	28	25

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.3	4.2
Passing Attempt	8.5	7.0
Rush-Pass Play	5.5	5.3
Pass Completion	15.0	13.5

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	70	74
Game Total Yards	382	393
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	7.3	6.4
MISTAKES	18	24

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	4-4-1

TENNESSEE

1986 RESULTS

N Mexico-H	-22	35-21	W/L
Miss St.-H	-11	23-27	L/L
Auburn-R	+8+	8-34	L/L
UTEP-H	-28	26-16	W/L
Army-H	-16	21-25	L/L
Alabama-H	+13	28-56	L/L
Ga. Tech-R	+6	13-14	L/W
Memphis-H	-18	33-3	W/W
Ole Miss-R	+6	22-10	W/W
Kentucky-H	-6	28-9	W/W
Vand'bilt-R	-14	35-20	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Ten.	OPP.
First Downs	20	18
Rushing Attempts	44	49
Rushing Yards	177	213
Passes Completed	15	10
Passes Attempted	24	19
Passing Yards	195	123
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	4	4
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	1-0
Penalties	5	7
Penalty Yards	42	56
POINTS	25	21

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.0	4.4
Passing Attempt	8.3	6.3
Rush-Pass Play	5.5	4.9
Pass Completion	13.3	12.5

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	68	68
Game Total Yards	372	336
Game Turnovers	2	1
Points 100 Yards	6.7	6.3
MISTAKES	16	19

Straight Up Record	6-5-0
versus the Spread	5-6-0

TEXAS

1986 RESULTS

Stanford-H	-8	20-31	L/L
Missouri-R	-8	27-25	W/L
Rice-R	-20	17-14	W/L
Oklahoma-H	+25	12-47	L/L
Arkansas-H	+7	14-21	L/T
SMU-H	+6	27-24	W/W
Tex Tech-R	+1	21-23	L/L
Houston-H	-9	30-10	W/W
TCU-R	-8	45-16	W/W
Baylor-R	+8	13-18	L/W
Tex A&M-H	+7	3-16	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Tex.	OPP.
First Downs	18	18
Rushing Attempts	41	45
Rushing Yards	140	187
Passes Completed	16	12
Passes Attempted	31	24
Passing Yards	192	149
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	6
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	1-1
Penalties	6	6
Penalty Yards	48	53
POINTS	21	22

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.4	4.2
Passing Attempt	6.1	6.2
Rush-Pass Play	4.6	4.9
Pass Completion	11.7	12.4

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	72	69
Game Total Yards	332	336
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.3	6.6
MISTAKES	26	21

Straight Up Record	5-6-0
versus the Spread	4-6-1

TEXAS A&M

1986 RESULTS

LSU-R	-3+	17-35	L/L
N Tex St-H	-	48-28	W/L
Sou Miss-H	-16	16-7	W/L
Tex Tech-H	-20	45-8	W/W
Houston-R	-18	19-7	W/L
Baylor-H	-5	31-30	W/L
Rice-H	-31	45-10	W/W
SMU-R	-5	39-35	W/L
Arkansas-R	-5	10-14	L/L
TCU-H	-24	74-10	W/W
Texas-R	-7	16-3	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	A&M	OPP.
First Downs	23	14
Rushing Attempts	47	40
Rushing Yards	196	111
Passes Completed	21	12
Passes Attempted	35	25
Passing Yards	245	128
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	4	7
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	8	5
Penalty Yards	63	44
POINTS	33	17

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.2	2.8
Passing Attempt	7.1	5.0
Rush-Pass Play	5.4	3.7
Pass Completion	11.8	11.1

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	82	65
Game Total Yards	441	239
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	7.5	7.1
MISTAKES	25	23

Straight Up Record	9-2-0
versus the Spread	4-6-0

TEXAS CHRISTIAN

1986 RESULTS

Tulane-R	+4	48-31	W/W
Kans St.-H	-21	35-22	W/L
SMU-R	+12	21-31	L/W
Arkansas-R	+16	17-34	L/L
Rice-H	-14	31-37	L/L
N Tex St.-H	-	20-24	L/L
Baylor-H	+14	17-28	L/W
Houston-R	+4	30-14	W/W
Tex Tech-H	+3	14-36	L/L
Texas-H	+8	16-45	L/L
Tex A&M-R	+24	10-74	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	TCU	OPP.
First Downs	17	22
Rushing Attempts	51	54
Rushing Yards	232	229
Passes Completed	9	14
Passes Attempted	19	24
Passing Yards	110	217
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	6	4
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	3-2
Penalties	4	7
Penalty Yards	34	52
POINTS	24	34

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.6	4.2
Passing Attempt	5.6	9.0
Rush-Pass Play	4.9	5.7
Pass Completion	11.6	15.8

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	70	78
Game Total Yards	342	446
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	7.0	7.6
MISTAKES	19	22

Straight Up Record	3-8-0
versus the Spread	4-6-0

TEXAS EL PASO

1986 RESULTS

N. Mich.-H	-	64-29	W/L
A. Force-H	+16	21-23	L/W
N. Mex St-R	-3	47-33	W/W
Hawaii-R	+10	21-31	L/T
Iowa-R	+30	7-69	L/L
Tennessee-R	+28	16-26	L/W
N. Mexico-R	+7	22-24	L/W
SD State-H	+6	10-15	L/W
BYU-R	+24	13-37	L/T
Wyoming-R	+14	12-41	L/L
Colo. St-H	+9	21-19	W/W
Utah-H	+4	55-44	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	UTEP	OPP.
First Downs	21	25
Rushing Attempts	35	49
Rushing Yards	111	224
Passes Completed	22	18
Passes Attempted	37	32
Passing Yards	268	231
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	1-1
Penalties	7	7
Penalty Yards	64	63
POINTS	26	33

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.2	4.6
Passing Attempt	7.4	7.2
Rush-Pass Play	5.3	5.6
Pass Completion	12.4	12.8

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	72	81
Game Total Yards	379	455
Game Turnovers	4	2
Points 100 Yards	6.9	7.3
MISTAKES	28	24

Straight Up Record	4-8-0
versus the Spread	7-2-2

TEXAS TECH				TULANE				TULSA				UCLA			
1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS			
Kans St.-H	-15	41-7	W/W	TCU-H	-4	31-48	L/L	La Tech-H	17-22	L/		Oklahoma-R	+7	3-38	L/L
Miami, F-R	+21	11-61	L/L	Vand'bilt-R	+7	35-17	W/W	Tenn Tech-H	51-0	W/		SD State-R	-14	45-14	W/W
N. Mexico-H	-7	14-7	W/T	Ole Miss-R	+7	10-35	L/L	Okl St.-H	+5	27-23	W/W	L. Beach-H	-28	41-23	W/L
Baylor-H	+9	14-45	L/L	Wich St.-H		20-21	L/	Arkansas-R	+15	17-34	L/L	Ariz. St-H	-7	9-16	L/L
Tex A&M-R	+20	8-45	L/L	Fla. St.-R	+26	21-54	L/L	Houston-R	+5	24-14	W/W	Arizona-H	-1	32-25	W/W
Arkansas-R	+22	17-7	W/W	Miss St.-H	+14	27-34	L/W	Cal-Ful.-H	-18	20-10	W/L	Calif.-R	-15	36-10	W/W
Rice-R	-6	49-21	W/W	Sou Miss-H	+6	35-20	W/W	SW La.-R		13-17	L/	Wash St.-H	-14	54-16	W/W
Texas-H	-1	23-21	W/W	SW La.-H		42-39	W/	C. Mich-H		42-6	W/	Ore. St.-R	-20	49-0	W/W
TCU-R	-3	36-14	W/W	Louisv'le-H	-14	12-23	L/L	Wich St.-H		38-10	W/	Stanford-H	-11	23-28	L/L
SMU-H	-1	7-13	L/L	Memphis-H	-7	15-6	W/W	N Mexico-R	-6	34-27	W/W	Wash'ngtn-R	+3	17-17	T/W
Houston-H	-11	34-7	W/W	LSU-R	+27	17-37	L/W	Miami, F-R	+35	10-23	L/W	USC-R	-4	45-25	W/W
PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE			
	TTch	OPP.			Tul.	OPP.			Tul.	OPP.			UCLA	OPP.	
First Downs	19	18		First Downs	22	21		First Downs	21	17		First Downs	20	18	
Rushing Attempts	40	46		Rushing Attempts	43	47		Rushing Attempts	59	46		Rushing Attempts	47	40	
Rushing Yards	176	147		Rushing Yards	182	247		Rushing Yards	294	179		Rushing Yards	211	145	
Passes Completed	16	14		Passes Completed	16	12		Passes Completed	7	13		Passes Completed	13	17	
Passes Attempted	38	29		Passes Attempted	29	23		Passes Attempted	16	25		Passes Attempted	24	31	
Passing Yards	188	222		Passing Yards	227	152		Passing Yards	129	147		Passing Yards	174	178	
Passes Intercepted	2	2		Passes Intercepted	1	2		Passes Intercepted	1	2		Passes Intercepted	1	2	
Punts	6	6		Punts	5	5		Punts	4	6		Punts	5	6	
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	3-2		Fumbles-Lost	3-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1	
Penalties	6	8		Penalties	5	6		Penalties	6	7		Penalties	6	6	
Penalty Yards	58	70		Penalty Yards	44	50		Penalty Yards	48	59		Penalty Yards	54	49	
POINTS	23	23		POINTS	24	30		POINTS	27	17		POINTS	32	19	
AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER			
Rushing Attempt	4.4	3.2		Rushing Attempt	4.3	5.3		Rushing Attempt	5.0	3.9		Rushing Attempt	4.5	3.6	
Passing Attempt	5.0	7.7		Passing Attempt	7.8	6.5		Passing Attempt	8.1	5.9		Passing Attempt	7.2	5.7	
Rush-Pass Play	4.7	4.9		Rush-Pass Play	5.7	5.7		Rush-Pass Play	5.6	4.6		Rush-Pass Play	5.4	4.6	
Pass Completion	12.1	15.5		Pass Completion	13.9	12.8		Pass Completion	18.4	11.3		Pass Completion	13.0	10.5	
MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS			
Game Total Plays	78	75		Game Total Plays	72	70		Game Total Plays	75	71		Game Total Plays	71	71	
Game Total Yards	364	369		Game Total Yards	409	399		Game Total Yards	423	326		Game Total Yards	385	323	
Game Turnovers	4	4		Game Turnovers	2	3		Game Turnovers	2	3		Game Turnovers	2	3	
Points 100 Yards	6.3	6.2		Points 100 Yards	5.9	7.5		Points 100 Yards	6.4	5.2		Points 100 Yards	8.3	5.9	
MISTAKES	34	29		MISTAKES	22	23		MISTAKES	18	24		MISTAKES	20	26	
Straight Up Record	7-4-0			Straight Up Record	4-7-0			Straight Up Record	7-4-0			Straight Up Record	7-3-1		
versus the Spread	6-4-1			versus the Spread	5-4-0			versus the Spread	4-2-0			versus the Spread	7-4-0		
UTAH				UTAH STATE				VANDERBILT				VIRGINIA			
1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS				1986 RESULTS			
SD State-H	-6*	30-37	L/L	BYU-R	0-52	L/		Alabama-R	+23	10-42	L/L	S. Caro.-H	-5	30-20	W/W
Ohio St.-R	+19	6-64	L/L	Missouri-R	10-24	L/		Maryland-R	+16	21-35	L/W	Navy-R	-5*	10-20	L/L
A. Force-H	+7*	35-45	L/L	Kansas-R	13-16	L/		Tulane-H	-7	17-35	L/L	Ga. Tech-H	-3	14-28	L/L
Wyoming-R	+8	14-38	L/L	N.Mex St.-H	42-9	W/		Duke-H	-2	24-18	W/W	Duke-R	-5*	13-20	L/L
N. Mexico-R	+8	43-47	L/W	S.J. St.-R	28-38	L/		Auburn-H	+22	9-31	L/T	Wake For-R	+7	30-28	W/W
Ariz. St.-R	+26	7-52	L/L	Cal-Ful-R	0-33	L/		Georgia-R	+20	16-38	L/L	Clemson-H	+9	17-31	L/L
Hawaii-H	+6	13-33	L/L	UNLV-H	7-6	W/		Ole Miss-H	+7	12-28	L/L	Va. Tech-R	+5	10-42	L/L
Colo. St-H	+12	38-28	W/W	L. Beach-H	3-14	L/		Memphis-H	-8	21-22	L/L	Wm-Mary-H		37-41	L/
Utah St-R		27-10	W/	Pacific-H	14-10	W/		Kentucky-R	+13	22-34	L/W	NC State-H	+6	20-16	W/W
BYU-H	+12	21-35	L/L	Utah-H	10-27	L/		Va. Tech-R	+14	21-29	L/W	N. Caro.-R	+10	7-27	L/L
UTEP-R	-4	44-55	L/L	Fresno St-R	7-14	L/		Tennessee-H	+14	20-35	L/L	Maryland-H	+10	10-42	L/L
PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE				PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE			
	Utah	OPP.			UST.	OPP.			Van.	OPP.			Vir.	OPP.	
First Downs	23	27		First Downs	11	17		First Downs	19	20		First Downs	19	20	
Rushing Attempts	34	49		Rushing Attempts	36	45		Rushing Attempts	42	49		Rushing Attempts	43	50	
Rushing Yards	141	254		Rushing Yards	65	139		Rushing Yards	142	253		Rushing Yards	160	247	
Passes Completed	24	17		Passes Completed	11	17		Passes Completed	14	11		Passes Completed	16	14	
Passes Attempted	41	29		Passes Attempted	26	31		Passes Attempted	29	18		Passes Attempted	31	26	
Passing Yards	287	244		Passing Yards	123	187		Passing Yards	189	161		Passing Yards	212	169	
Passes Intercepted	1	1		Passes Intercepted	2	2		Passes Intercepted	2	1		Passes Intercepted	2	1	
Punts	5	4		Punts	9	6		Punts	5	4		Punts	6	5	
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-2	3-1		Fumbles-Lost	3-1	3-1		Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1	
Penalties	8	6		Penalties	8	9		Penalties	5	6		Penalties	5	6	
Penalty Yards	65	51		Penalty Yards	63	73		Penalty Yards	45	49		Penalty Yards	38	56	
POINTS	25	40		POINTS	12	22		POINTS	18	32		POINTS	18	29	
AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER				AVERAGE YARDS PER			
Rushing Attempt	4.1	5.2		Rushing Attempt	1.8	3.1		Rushing Attempt	3.4	5.1		Rushing Attempt	3.8	5.0	
Passing Attempt	7.0	8.5		Passing Attempt	4.6	6.0		Passing Attempt	6.5	8.9		Passing Attempt	6.7	6.6	
Rush-Pass Play	5.7	6.4		Rush-Pass Play	3.0	4.3		Rush-Pass Play	4.7	6.2		Rush-Pass Play	5.0	5.5	
Pass Completion	12.0	14.5		Pass Completion	11.3	10.8		Pass Completion	13.4	14.5		Pass Completion	13.0	12.5	
MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS				MEANINGFUL STATS			
Game Total Plays	75	78		Game Total Plays	62	76		Game Total Plays	71	67		Game Total Plays	74	76	
Game Total Yards	428	498		Game Total Yards	188	326		Game Total Yards	331	414		Game Total Yards	372	416	
Game Turnovers	2	2		Game Turnovers	4	3		Game Turnovers	3	2		Game Turnovers	3	2	
Points 100 Yards	5.8	8.0		Points 100 Yards	6.4	6.8		Points 100 Yards	5.4	7.7		Points 100 Yards	4.8	7.0	
MISTAKES	29	22		MISTAKES	29	29		MISTAKES	27	17		MISTAKES	25	22	
Straight Up Record	2-9-0			Straight Up Record	3-8-0			Straight Up Record	1-10-0			Straight Up Record	3-8-0		
versus the Spread	2-8-0			versus the Spread	0-0-0			versus the Spread	4-6-1			versus the Spread	3-7-0		

VIRGINIA TECH

1986 RESULTS

Cinc.-H	-8	20-24	L/L
Clemson-R	+12	20-14	W/W
Syracuse-R	+7	26-17	W/W
E. Tenn.-H		37-10	W/
West Va.-H	-7	13-7	W/L
S. Carol.-H	-3*	27-27	T/L
Temple-H	-2	13-29	L/L
Virginia-H	-5	42-10	W/W
Kent'ky-H	-5	17-15	W/L
Richm'nd-R		17-10	W/
Yand'blt-H	-14	29-21	W/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	V.T.	OPP.
First Downs	18	21
Rushing Attempts	47	50
Rushing Yards	208	177
Passes Completed	11	15
Passes Attempted	21	29
Passing Yards	151	191
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	5	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	7	6
Penalty Yards	59	55
POINTS	24	17

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.5	3.6
Passing Attempt	7.1	6.6
Rush-Pass Play	5.3	4.7
Pass Completion	14.2	12.4

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	68	79
Game Total Yards	359	368
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	6.7	4.6
MISTAKES	21	25

Straight Up Record	8-2-1
versus the Spread	3-6-0

WAKE FOREST

1986 RESULTS

App. St.-H		21-13	W/
Boston U.-H		31-0	W/
NC St.-R	+4	38-42	L/T
Army-R	+4*	49-14	W/W
Virginia-H	-7	28-30	L/L
N. Carol.-H	+6	30-40	L/L
Maryland-R	+11	27-21	W/W
Clemson-H	+7*	20-28	L/L
Duke-R	-5*	36-38	L/L
S. Caro.-R	+8	21-48	L/L
Ga. Tech-H	+10	24-21	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	W.F.	OPP.
First Downs	22	21
Rushing Attempts	39	49
Rushing Yards	163	211
Passes Completed	20	15
Passes Attempted	36	27
Passing Yards	241	200
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	6	6
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	3-1
Penalties	5	6
Penalty Yards	42	62
POINTS	30	27

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.2	4.3
Passing Attempt	6.6	7.3
Rush-Pass Play	5.4	5.4
Pass Completion	12.3	13.0

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	75	76
Game Total Yards	404	411
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	7.4	6.6
MISTAKES	25	22

Straight Up Record	5-6-1
versus the Spread	3-5-1

WASHINGTON

1986 RESULTS

Ohio St.-H	Pk	40-7	W/W
BYU-H	-8	52-21	W/W
USC-R	-5	10-20	L/L
Calif.-H	-21	50-18	W/W
Stanford-R	-10	24-14	W/T
Bwl Green-H		48-0	W/
Oregon-H	-25	38-3	W/W
Ariz. St.-R	Pk	21-34	L/L
Ore. St.-R	-23	28-12	W/L
UCLA-H	-3	17-17	T/L
Wash. St.-R	-16	44-23	W/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Wash	OPP.
First Downs	20	15
Rushing Attempts	46	36
Rushing Yards	189	89
Passes Completed	16	15
Passes Attempted	27	30
Passing Yards	193	182
Passes Intercepted	1	2
Punts	4	6
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-2
Penalties	5	5
Penalty Yards	54	38
POINTS	34	15

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	4.1	2.5
Passing Attempt	7.2	6.1
Rush-Pass Play	5.2	4.1
Pass Completion	12.4	12.2

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	73	66
Game Total Yards	382	271
Game Turnovers	2	4
Points 100 Yards	8.9	5.5
MISTAKES	20	25

Straight Up Record	8-2-1
versus the Spread	5-4-1

WASH. STATE

1986 RESULTS

UNLV-H		34-14	W/
S. Jose St.-H	-17	13-20	L/L
Calif.-R	+5*	21-31	L/L
Ariz. St.-R	+20	21-21	T/W
Ore. St.-H	-13	24-14	W/L
USC-H	+10	34-14	W/W
UCLA-R	+14	16-54	L/L
Stanford-R	+8	12-42	L/L
Arizona-H	+10	6-31	L/L
Oregon-R	+2	17-27	L/L
Wash'ngtn-H	+16	23-44	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	WSt.	OPP.
First Downs	19	23
Rushing Attempts	42	45
Rushing Yards	157	203
Passes Completed	14	18
Passes Attempted	26	30
Passing Yards	212	227
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	6	4
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	7	7
Penalty Yards	51	67
POINTS	20	28

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.7	4.6
Passing Attempt	8.1	7.5
Rush-Pass Play	5.4	5.7
Pass Completion	15.5	12.9

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	68	75
Game Total Yards	369	430
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	5.4	6.5
MISTAKES	23	24

Straight Up Record	3-7-1
versus the Spread	2-8-0

W. VIRGINIA

1986 RESULTS

N. Illin-H	47-14	W/
E. Carolina-R -12*	24-21	W/L
Maryland-H +4	3-24	L/L
Pitt-R +8	16-48	L/L
Va. Tech-R +7	7-13	L/W
Miami,F.-H +24	14-58	L/L
Bos. Col.-H +6*	10-19	L/L
Penn St.-H +20	0-19	L/L
Rutgers-R +8	24-17	W/W
Louisv'le-R -12	42-19	W/W
Syracuse-H -3	23-34	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	WVa.	OPP.
First Downs	19	21
Rushing Attempts	46	49
Rushing Yards	176	197
Passes Completed	12	12
Passes Attempted	26	24
Passing Yards	163	188
Passes Intercepted	1	1
Punts	6	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	6	8
Penalty Yards	58	62
POINTS	19	26

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.8	4.0
Passing Attempt	6.4	7.8
Rush-Pass Play	4.7	5.3
Pass Completion	13.2	15.1

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	72	73
Game Total Yards	339	385
Game Turnovers	2	2
Points 100 Yards	5.6	6.8
MISTAKES	23	23

Straight Up Record	4-7-0
versus the Spread	4-6-0

WISCONSIN

1986 RESULTS

Hawaii-R	-5*	17-20	L/L
N. Illin.-H		35-20	W/
UNLV-R		7-17	L/
Wyoming-H	-9	12-21	L/L
Michigan-H	+21	17-34	L/W
Iowa-R	+22	6-17	L/W
Northw'tn-R	-7	35-27	W/W
Illinois-H	-1	15-9	W/W
Indiana-R	+6*	7-21	L/L
Minnesota-H	+2*	20-27	L/L
Ohio St.-H	+19	17-30	L/W
Mich St.-R	+15	13-23	L/W

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Wis.	OPP.
First Downs	16	21
Rushing Attempts	39	48
Rushing Yards	152	198
Passes Completed	12	15
Passes Attempted	24	26
Passing Yards	132	204
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	6	4
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	3-2
Penalties	6	6
Penalty Yards	46	47
POINTS	17	22

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.9	4.1
Passing Attempt	5.5	7.9
Rush-Pass Play	4.5	5.4
Pass Completion	10.7	14.0

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	63	74
Game Total Yards	284	402
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	6.0	5.5
MISTAKES	22	22

Straight Up Record	3-9-0
versus the Spread	6-4-0

WYOMING

1986 RESULTS

Baylor-H	+21	28-31	L/W
Pacific-H	-11	23-20	W/L
A. Force-R	+11	23-17	W/W
Wisconsin-R	+9	21-12	W/W
Ia. State-R	-1	10-21	L/L
Utah-H	-8	38-14	W/W
BYU-H	+6	22-34	L/L
Colo. St.-R	+4	15-20	L/L
N. Mexico-H	-9	35-25	W/W
UTEP-H	-14	41-12	W/W
S.D. St.-R	+1	24-31	L/L
Hawaii-R	+2	19-35	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Wyo.	OPP.
First Downs	23	21
Rushing Attempts	33	48
Rushing Yards	122	185
Passes Completed	25	16
Passes Attempted	47	30
Passing Yards	295	219
Passes Intercepted	2	2
Punts	6	6
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Penalties	7	9
Penalty Yards	62	72
POINTS	25	23

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.7	3.9
Passing Attempt	6.3	7.3
Rush-Pass Play	5.2	5.2
Pass Completion	11.6	14.1

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	80	78
Game Total Yards	417	404
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	6.0	5.7
MISTAKES	34	29

Straight Up Record	6-6-0
versus the Spread	6-6-0

YALE

1986 RESULTS

Brown-R	+2	7-21	L/L
U. Conn-H		12-17	L/
Army-H	+20	24-41	L/W
Colgate-H	+4	28-23	W/W
Columbia-H	-24	47-0	W/W
Penn-R	+11	6-24	L/L
Dartm'th-H	-16	13-39	L/L
Cornell-R	+9	0-15	L/L
Princeton-H	-6	14-13	W/L
Harvard-R	+4	17-24	L/L

PER GAME STATISTICAL AVERAGE

	Yale	OPP.
First Downs	16	18
Rushing Attempts	37	48
Rushing Yards	123	176
Passes Completed	16	11
Passes Attempted	32	20
Passing Yards	192	153
Passes Intercepted	2	1
Punts	4	5
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-2
Penalties	7	7
Penalty Yards	46	61
POINTS	17	22

AVERAGE YARDS PER

Rushing Attempt	3.4	3.6
Passing Attempt	6.0	7.8
Rush-Pass Play	4.6	4.8
Pass Completion	12.3	14.3

MEANINGFUL STATS

Game Total Plays	69	68
Game Total Yards	315	329
Game Turnovers	3	3
Points 100 Yards	5.4	6.7
MISTAKES	29	19

Straight Up Record	3-7-0
versus the Spread	3-6-0

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